

NO. 1 MATERIAL SITE

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SPRINTERS HALL

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# Illinois Springfield Home As a National Site

Excerpts from newspapers and other sources

From the files of the  
Lincoln Financial Foundation Collection

## LINCOLN HOME PLANNED AS U.S. HISTORIC SITE

Washington, April 28 (AP)—The home of Abraham Lincoln in Springfield, Ill., may become a national historic site under a plan approved by Interior Secretary Walter J. Hickel.

The advisory board on national parks, historic sites, buildings, and monuments has recommended bringing the Lincoln house, along with a four-block area surrounding it, under the protection of the national park service.

Hickel said the plan would require the approval of Congress.

# Offer Historic Site Plan for Lincoln Home

BY WILLIAM KLING

(Chicago Tribune Press Service)

WASHINGTON, Nov. 11—A master plan to turn Abraham Lincoln's Springfield, Ill., home and surrounding area into a National Historic Site has been completed by the National Park Service.

The plan proposes that the historic setting of the Lincoln home neighborhood in downtown Springfield "be recaptured as it was in 1860 thru restoration and partial reconstruction of period buildings and streets and the removal of more recent structures," a Park Service announcement said.

A spokesman for Rep. Paul Findley (R., Ill.), who has been pressing for the project, said it would take in as much as eight city blocks around the old Lincoln home, the only one the President ever owned. The Park Service announcement listed no cost for the project.

## Bought House in 1844

The Lincoln home, originally a one-story cottage with two attic rooms, was built in 1839 on the northeast corner of 8th and Jackson Streets in Springfield. Lincoln bought it in 1844 and, except for the two years he served in Congress [1848-49], he and his family lived there until they moved into the White House in 1861.

Lincoln and his wife and infant son moved

into the house two years after the Lincolns were married. He walked from there to his Springfield law office.

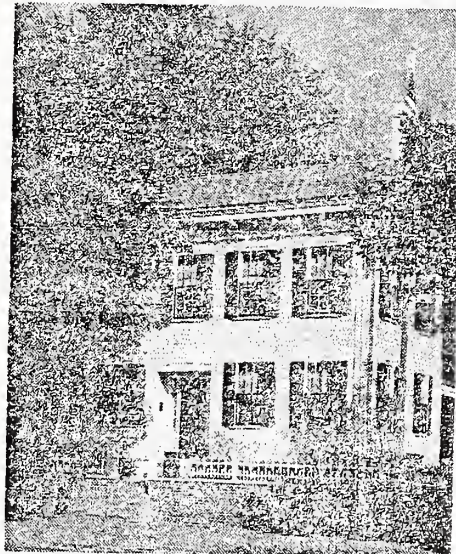
On May 17, 1860, Lincoln received a committee from the Republican nominating convention in his home, learning formally that he had been chosen as the party's Presidential candidate. In the home on Feb. 6, 1861, Lincoln held a party to bid farewell to friends before leaving Springfield for Washington to begin his Presidency.

The home, owned by the state of Illinois since 1837, was designated a National Historic Landmark in 1964 at the time Lincoln's Tomb in Springfield's Oak Ridge Cemetery and the old Illinois state Capitol received a similar designation.

## Attracts Many Tourists

About 650,000 tourists visit the Lincoln home each year. Secretary of the Interior Walter J. Hickel approved the proposal to make the home a component of the National Park Service last February.

The plan is to "enable the visitor to understand the environment of which Abraham Lincoln was a part for the 23 years from the beginning of his law practice in Springfield to the Presidency and the relevance of this to a deeper understanding of Lincoln in American heritage," the statement said.



(TRIBUNE Staff Photo)

The Springfield home of Abraham Lincoln. The National Park Service has completed a master plan to restore the historic setting of the neighborhood.

CHICAGO TRIBUNE, MONDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 1971

## Bill Seeks Shrine at Lincoln's Home

BY PHILIP WARDEN

[Chicago Tribune Press Service]

WASHINGTON, Jan. 31 — Rep. Paul Findley [R., Ill.] and Senators Percy [R., Ill.] and Stevenson [D., Ill.] tomorrow will introduce legislation to make Abraham Lincoln's home in Springfield a national shrine.

The bill, endorsed by the Department of Interior after being first proposed in the 91st Congress, is cosponsored by all members of the House from Illinois and 56 from other states.

### State Now Owns Home

The State of Illinois now owns the Lincoln home at the corner of Eighth and Jackson Streets in Springfield, Findley said. The city government has acquired several nearby prop-

erties with a view to restoration.

"The home is just as it was the day Lincoln left for Washington," Findley said. "Much of the original furniture is still in place."

The surrounding area in Springfield, however, "has been threatened with deterioration and commercialization," he said.

"Each year the Lincoln home is one of the 10 most popular historic sites in the country," Findley said. "People come from all over the world to visit it. Steps must be taken to preserve the home and its environs for future generations of Americans."





# ABRAHAM LINCOLN ASSOCIATION

FLOYD S. BARRINGER, *President*  
FRANCIS J. O'BRIEN, *Vice-President*  
WILLIAM K. ALDERFER, *Secretary*  
WILLARD BUNN, JR., *Treasurer*

OLD STATE CAPITOL  
SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS 62706

## M E M O R A N D U M

TO: Members of the Abraham Lincoln Association  
FROM: William K. Alderfer  
DATE: May 19, 1971  
SUBJECT: Hearing of June 12, 1971

*Board of Directors*  
George W. Bunn, Jr.  
Bruce Catton  
John P. Clarke  
Paul Findley  
Donald H. Funk  
Hugh Garvey  
Richard P. Graebel  
Earl W. Henderson, Jr.  
Lewis L. Herndon  
King V. Hostick  
Nelson Howarth  
Otto Kerner  
Edwin A. Lee  
M. S. Luthringer  
Loring C. Merwin  
Robert E. Miller, Jr.  
James E. Myers  
Ralph G. Newman  
Richard B. Ogilvie  
William H. Patton  
H. Langdon Robinson  
Mrs. Paul R. Schanbacher  
Adlai E. Stevenson, III  
Mrs. A. D. Van Meter, Jr.  
Clyde C. Walton  
Harlington Wood, Jr.

The U.S. House of Representatives Subcommittee on National Parks and Recreation will visit Springfield on June 12, 1971, to take testimony relating to House Resolution 3117 (a copy is enclosed) which proposes that the Lincoln Home Area be made a National Historic Site. This memorandum is being sent to members of the Abraham Lincoln Association to inform them of the proposal and to encourage their participation in the hearings either with a personal appearance or with written testimony. The enclosed press release of May 11, 1971, contains information about how either your written or personal testimony can become part of the public record.

For your further information, the Board of Directors of the Abraham Lincoln Association has voted its support of House Resolution 3117 and intends to testify on behalf of the proposal.

If you are able to give testimony in person, it is advisable that you come prepared to state your position in five minutes or less.

Enclosures

**A BILL**

To authorize the Secretary of the Interior to establish the Lincoln Home National Historic Site in the State of Illinois, and for other purposes.

By Mr. FINDLEY, Mr. ROSTENKOWSKI, Mr. ARENDS, Mr. ANDERSON of Illinois, Mr. ANNUNZIO, Mr. COLLIER, Mr. COLLINS of Illinois, Mr. CRANE, Mr. DERWINSKI, Mr. ERLBORN, Mr. GRAY, Mr. KLUCZYNSKI, Mr. McCLORY, Mr. MICHEL, Mr. MIKVA, Mr. MURPHY of Illinois, Mr. PRICE of Illinois, Mr. PUCINSKI, Mr. RAILSBACK, Mrs. REID of Illinois, Mr. SHIPLEY, Mr. SPRINGER, and Mr. YATES

FEBRUARY 1, 1971

Referred to the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

That, in order to preserve and interpret for the benefit of the people the home of Abraham Lincoln in Springfield, Illinois, the Secretary of the Interior is authorized to acquire by donation, purchase with donated or appropriated funds, or exchange, the property at the northeast corner of Eighth and Jackson Streets, in the State of Illinois, including improvements thereon, together with such adjacent lands and interests therein as the Secretary may deem necessary for the establishment and administration of the property as a national historic site. The Secretary is further authorized to acquire by any of the above means personal property used and to be used in connection with the national historic site.

SEC. 2. The property acquired pursuant to the first section of this Act shall be known as the Lincoln Home National Historic Site, and it shall be administered by the Secretary of the Interior in accordance with the Act of August 25, 1916 (39 Stat. 535), as amended and supplemented (16 U.S.C. 1, 2-4), and the Act of August 21, 1935 (49 Stat. 666; 16 U.S.C. 461-467).

SEC. 3. There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act, not to exceed, however \$5,860,000 (February 1970 prices) for development of the area, plus or minus such amounts, if any as may be justified by reason of ordinary fluctuations in construction cost as indicated by engineering cost indexes applicable to the types of construction involved herein.



Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs  
House of Representatives  
Washington, D. C.

For immediate release  
May 11, 1971

FIELD HEARINGS ON PROPOSED LINCOLN HOME NATIONAL  
HISTORIC SITE ANNOUNCED

Representative Wayne N. Aspinall (D-Colo.), Chairman, Interior and Insular Affairs Committee of the U. S. House of Representatives, and Representative Roy A. Taylor (D-N.C.), Chairman of the Subcommittee on National Parks and Recreation, announced today that plans are being made for members of the Subcommittee to visit the proposed Lincoln Home National Historic Site in Springfield, Illinois.

"We expect to visit the proposed Lincoln Home area," Representative Taylor said, "and we will hold public hearings on the proposal." The hearings are scheduled to begin at 9:00 a.m., Saturday, June 12, 1971, and will be conducted in the City Council Chambers at the Municipal Building at 7th and Monroe Streets in Springfield.

"Persons wishing to testify," the Subcommittee Chairman emphasized, "should notify the Subcommittee immediately and should supply at least thirty (30) copies of their prepared statement to the staff at the time of the hearing."

Anyone not wishing to testify orally at the hearing may submit a written statement for inclusion in the record or files of the Subcommittee. At least three copies of such materials should be supplied and they may be presented to the staff at the hearing or they may be mailed no later than June 22, 1971, to the Chairman at the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs, 1324 Longworth House Office Building, Washington, D. C. 20515.

Representative Aspinall indicated that the visiting Congressional group will be accompanied by Representative Paul Findley, who represents the people where the proposed site is located. "As one who has visited the Lincoln Home and the other historic places in the vicinity of Springfield," Chairman Aspinall said, "I think that the Members of the Subcommittee will find their visit helpful and interesting as they proceed to consider H.R. 3117 and companion measures."

Note: Persons wishing to make arrangements to present testimony before the Committee may also wish to contact Congressman Paul Findley's District Service Office, Room 205, Federal Building, Springfield (217/525-4062). For those persons who will not be able to appear in person but who would like to give their views in a letter, the letter may be addressed to the Subcommittee Chairman, The Honorable Roy Taylor, and can be delivered or sent to Congressman Findley's Office for transmittal to the Subcommittee.

ADDRESS REPLY TO:  
DISTRICT SERVICE OFFICE  
205 FEDERAL BUILDING  
SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS 62701  
PHONE: 217-525-4062

PAUL FINDLEY  
20TH DISTRICT, ILLINOIS

COMMITTEES:  
FOREIGN AFFAIRS  
AGRICULTURE

## Congress of the United States House of Representatives

COUNTIES:  
ADAMS McDONOUGH  
BROWN MORGAN  
CALHOUN PIKE  
CASS SANGAMON  
GREENE SCHUYLER  
HANCOCK SCOTT  
JERSEY

For Release Friday, May 21, 1971

### DATE CHANGED FOR FIELD HEARINGS ON PROPOSED LINCOLN HOME NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE

Springfield--Representative Paul Findley (R-Illinois), in a news conference today in his Springfield office, announced that members of the Subcommittee on National Parks and Recreation, House Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs, will visit the proposed Lincoln Home area and will hold public hearings on Findley's proposal to make the Lincoln Home a national historic site, at 1:30 P.M., Friday, June 11, in the City Council Chambers, Municipal Building, at Seventh and Monroe Streets in Springfield.

Findley noted that the hearing, previously set for Saturday, was being re-scheduled at the request of the Subcommittee Chairman, Representative Roy A. Taylor (D-N.C.).

At the Springfield hearing, residents of Springfield will be able to present to the Subcommittee their views on the development of the four block Lincoln Home area by the National Park Service.

Findley said, "Persons who wish to give their views on the Lincoln Home Plan to the Congressional Subcommittee may do so by appearing personally at the hearing. Subcommittee rules require that prospective witnesses notify the Subcommittee, in advance, of their

-2-

desire to testify, and submit thirty copies of the testimony. The testimony should be addressed to The Honorable Roy Taylor, Chairman, Subcommittee on National Parks and Recreation.

In order to be of service to my constituents, anyone desiring to testify may call my office in Springfield (205 Federal Building, at Sixth and Monroe) 525-4062, and register as witnesses. In addition, for those persons who may not have access to a copying machine, they may bring their statements to my office and copies will be prepared for them.

For those persons who will not be able to attend the hearing but still wish to present their views on the Lincoln Home Plan, they may write a letter with three copies to Congressman Taylor, House Interior Committee, Room 1324 Longworth House Office Building, Washington, D.C. They may bring the letter to my office for transmittal or may deliver the letter and copies to the Subcommittee at the Springfield hearing on June 11, 1971.

I have an ample supply of copies of the Bill, HR 3117, on hand at my Springfield office, and my staff will be happy to answer any questions or to be of assistance in any other way possible."



## House panel OKs renovation funds

# Boost to 'Lincoln biz'

By John Camper  
By Our Springfield Bureau

SPRINGFIELD, Ill. — This city, which markets Abraham Lincoln like Detroit markets cars, has received a big boost in its efforts to attract Lincoln worshippers.

A U.S. House subcommittee Thursday recommended passage of a bill to appropriate \$7,860,000 to make Lincoln's old Springfield home and the surrounding four-block area a national historic site.

The home, which Lincoln and his family occupied from 1844 until he became President in 1861, currently is owned by

the state and attracts some 650,000 visitors a year.

But history buffs complain that the surrounding area is becoming infested with gas stations and car washes and that some of the remaining historic houses in the neighborhood have been converted to multifamily use and are poorly maintained.

**THE APPROPRIATION**, pushed by U.S. Rep. Paul Findley (R-Ill.) and Sen. Charles Percy (R-Ill.), includes \$2 million to buy all the land in the four-block area surrounding the home on the

southeast edge of downtown Springfield.

The rest of the money would be used to redevelop the area to at least an approximation of how it looked in the mid-19th Century.

The federal government would relocate 1 old house now used as a visitor center, reconstruct 3 old houses and 12 barns, build new brick and wood sidewalks, resurface the streets with "historic materials" and construct parking lots on the perimeter.

Plans also call for construction of a visitors' facility with maps, rest rooms, information

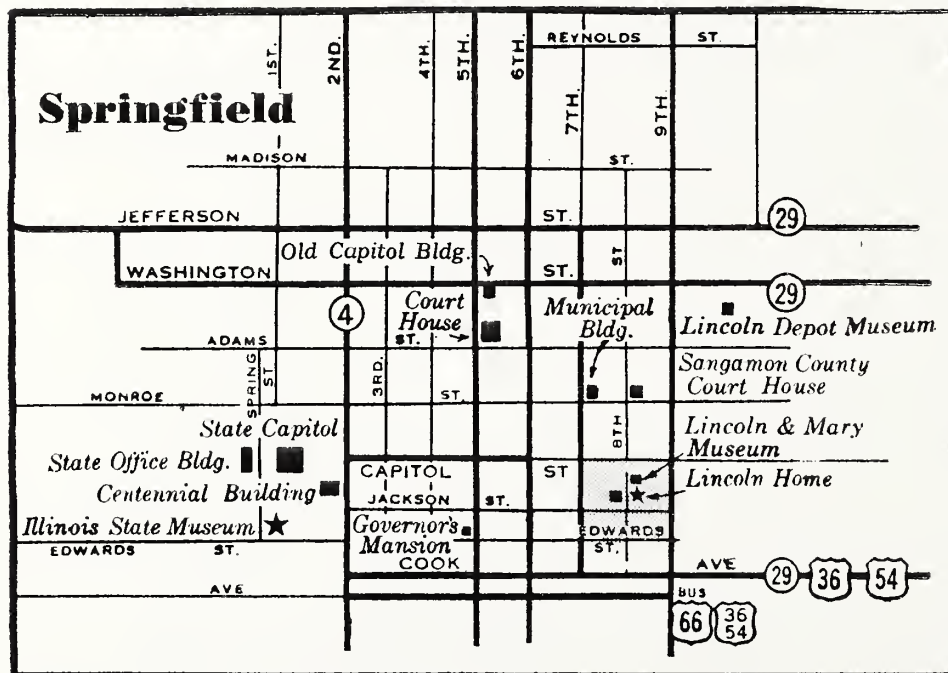
counter and a small room for historical movies; a manned gazebo supplying recorded messages; a restored pasture behind Lincoln's home, and a smaller play area for children.

The government would take over three privately owned historic homes within the site — the Ninian Edwards House where Lincoln married Mary Todd; the Corneau House, which would be moved a few hundred yards, and the Abraham Lincoln Museum, which would be restored to look more like a home than a museum.

**FINDLEY SAID** he hopes the bill will become Law this fall. Nobody has set a timetable for completion of the historic site.

The federal takeover is strongly backed by Gov. Richard B. Ogilvie and the Springfield City Commission, which believes the area will be a fitting centerpiece for a city which already boasts:

Lincoln's Tomb, Lincoln De-



Shading shows area to be restored and developed.

(Chicago Motor Club—AAA Map)

pot, Lincoln's Pew in the First Presbyterian Church, Lincoln's Law Office, Lincoln Memorial Gardens and Nature Center, Lincoln Greens Golf Course, Lincoln Motel, Lincoln Advertising Agency, Lincoln Auto Parts, Lincoln Cab Co., Lincoln Candy Co., Lincoln Casualty Co., Lincoln Finan-

cial Corp., Lincoln Land Campers Inc., Lincoln Land Community College, Lincoln Land Soft Drinks, Lincoln Land Title & Abstract Co., Lincoln Library, Lincoln National Life Insurance Co., Lincoln Office Supply Co., Lincoln Park, Lincoln School, Lincoln Securities Corp., Lincoln Souvenir

and Gift Shop, Lincoln Square Tavern, Lincoln Theatre, Lincoln Tower Apartments, Lincoln Trail Campgrounds, Lincoln Trail Fina Service Station, Lincoln Transfer Co., Lincoln Travel Agency, Lincolnland Motor Sales and Lincolnland Tuberculosis and Respiratory Assn.

## VOICE OF THE PEOPLE

*Writers should confine themselves to 200 or 300 words. Give full names and addresses. No manuscripts can be returned. Space for letters is limited. Incoming mail far exceeds it. The right to condense is reserved. Address letters to Voice of the People, THE TRIBUNE.*

### HIS FIRST 'WHITE HOUSE'

MACOMB, Ill.—A bill will come up next month in Congress to make Abraham Lincoln's house in Springfield a national historic site. The project has been discussed in THE TRIBUNE's editorial columns. Perhaps many people, however, do not realize how intimately associated this "white house" in Illinois was with the total life of the greatest statesman who ever lived.

It was a "white house" when Lincoln bought the home for \$1,500 from a preacher, Charles Dresser, May 2, 1844. Lincoln was a young husband, and he needed the plain, old fashioned, two-story wooden house of 12 rooms.

Recently I visited the house and remarked: "Now, had Abe not lived here, I wouldn't live in a dinky house like this—small rooms, low ceilings, and surely a tall man would be afraid he'd touch the ceiling if he yawned. I would give \$3,000 for this downtown lot."

Well, Lincoln lived in this white house, rising from country lawyer to the stature of a national leader qualified to move into the White House in Washington.

Homemade nails and wooden pegs held it together when Lincoln bought it. Floors and frame were oak laths. Door frames and window frames were hand-split hickory. And the weather boarding was black walnut.

Let's make the Illinois white house historic by act of Congress; it already is in fact and by tradition and sentiment.

REEF WALDREP



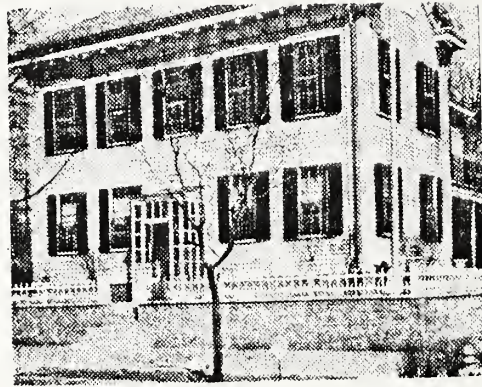
Chi. Daily News 29 July 1971

## Setting for Lincoln's home

Thanks to Sen. Charles Percy and Rep. Paul Findley, the Abraham Lincoln home in Springfield may finally have an adequate setting.

The Senate Interior Committee has approved a bill urged by the Illinoisans authorizing federal purchase of four city blocks in Springfield including the site of the only house Lincoln ever owned. The federal government would make the area a national historic site in the mid-19th Century fashion, restoring authentic houses and eliminating the clutter that has grown up since Lincoln's day. The whole project would cost \$6 million.

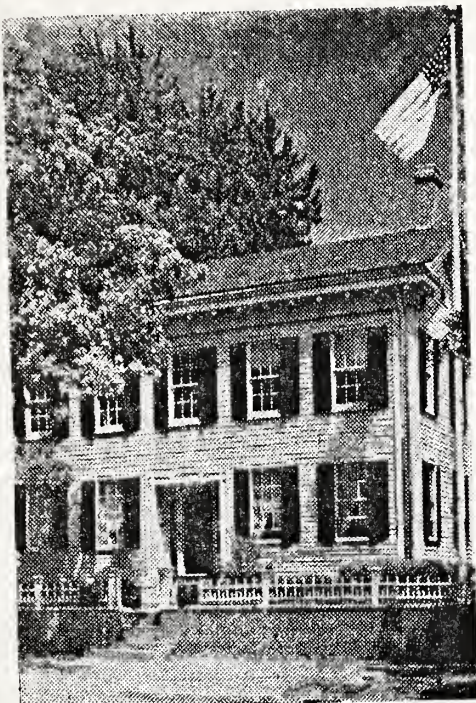
While the state has preserved the Lincoln house itself as a historical museum, it has done nothing about the environs, with the result that the two-story dwelling is so inconspicuous that



visitors often stroll by it without recognizing it.

We hope Congress will agree with Percy, Findley and the Senate committee, and give this national treasure the environment it deserves. Otherwise the stately old home may one day be hemmed in by gas stations.

Chi. Sun. Times 3 Aug 1971



Abraham Lincoln's home in Springfield.

# House OKs Lincoln home as U.S. shrine

WASHINGTON (UPI) — The House voted Monday to designate Abraham Lincoln's home in Springfield, Ill., and a four-block area around it as the state's first national historic site.

The measure authorizes the National Park Service to spend up to \$2,003,000 to purchase all land within one block of the home on the edge of the capital's downtown district.

It authorizes up to \$5,860,000 for restoration of the home at 8th and Jackson streets, for razing the commercial buildings in the area and creation of a museum.

The State of Illinois already owns the home but has arranged to give it and the streets in the area to the Park Service.

The Senate approved a similar bill last Friday. Now a House-Senate conference committee must compromise minor differences in the bills before sending one to President Nixon for signature.

The Senate version authorizes \$3,000 less than the House for site acquisition but \$140,000 more than the House for development.

Rep. Paul Findley (R-Ill.), who introduced the bill as congressman for Springfield, said in a floor speech before the vote that Illinois already was doing more than its fair share to protect the Lincoln shrines.

"The state has established, restored and

maintained the New Salem Village where Lincoln first settled, Lincoln's tomb, and the old State Capitol Building where he delivered his 'house divided' speech.

"Each is made readily available without charge to all visitors. The financial burden of all this has been substantial and continues to be.

"The citizens of Springfield, the city government and the state have done their part to preserve the Lincoln home and its environs. Now it is time for the national government to do its part."

Illinois has been one of the few states in the nation without a national historic site.



STATE OF ILLINOIS  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR  
SPRINGFIELD 62706

RICHARD B. OGILVIE  
GOVERNOR

August 13, 1971

Dr. and Mrs. Wayne Temple  
1121 South Fourth Street  
Springfield, Illinois 62703

Dear Dr. and Mrs. Temple:

On Wednesday, August 18, 1971, President Richard M. Nixon will visit Illinois to sign into law the bill that makes the Lincoln Home Area a National Historic Site.

In view of your interest in this project, Congressman Paul Findley and I would be honored if you could attend the Bill Signing ceremony at the Old State Capitol.

The presentation of this letter will admit you to the Old State Capitol between 10:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. Please present this to the Old State Capitol guide at the North (Washington Street) entrance to that building. This letter is your admission ticket to the building. The parking garage at the Old State Capitol will be closed on the morning of August 18.

Please respond with a phone call to the Illinois State Historical Library, Old State Capitol, Springfield, 217-525-4836 or 525-2118 by 3:00 p.m. Monday, August 16. If we do not hear from you by that time your reserved space will be given to someone else.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Richard B. Ogilvie", written over a large, stylized initial "R".

Richard B. Ogilvie  
Governor



# Nixon to Dedicate Lincoln's Home This Week

BY WILLIAM KLING

(Chicago Tribune Press Service)

WASHINGTON, Aug. 15—Abraham Lincoln's home, the only house he ever owned, is just one of the structures of historic significance in the four-block Springfield, Ill., area President Nixon's signature will make a national historic site on Wednesday.

Also within the site's boundaries in the downtown section of the Illinois capital are the house in which Lincoln courted and married Mary Todd and the church the Lincoln family attended while Lincoln was a Springfield attorney, state legislator, unsuccessful candidate for the United States Senate and the Republican Party's first winning nominee for President.

With a characteristic eye on history and its modern relevance, Nixon will sign the Lincoln Home National Historic Site Act in a ceremony some blocks away in the restored Old State Capitol. It was the scene of Lin-

coln's famous "house divided" speech, an 1858 warning against factionalism and division in the nation, then over the slavery issue.

## Cosponsors of Legislation

The bill was passed early this month by Congress to cap a campaign of nearly three years by Rep. Paul Findley [R., Ill.], its principal sponsor. It authorizes \$2 million in federal funds to buy property surrounding the Lincoln home, and another \$5.83 million to restore the site as it looked when Lincoln lived there and to provide tourist facilities.

Cosponsors of the legislation were all other members of Illinois' House delegation, Sen. Percy [R., Ill.], Sen. Stevenson [D., Ill.] and 56 congressmen from other states.

The 132-year old Lincoln home, situated on the northeast corner of 8th and Jackson Streets in Springfield, will be the center of the historic site, bounded by Capitol, Edwards, 7th and 9th Streets. Originally a one-story cottage with two attic rooms, the house was

built in 1839 and later enlarged. Lincoln bought it in 1844 and, except for the two years he served in Congress [1848-49], he and his family lived there until they moved into the White House in 1861.

Lincoln, his wife, and their infant son moved into the house two years after the Lincolns were married. He walked from there to his Springfield law offices across the street from the old State Capitol. The office has been privately restored.

## Contains Original Furniture

On May 17, 1860, Lincoln received a committee from the Republican nominating convention in the home, learning formally that he had been chosen as the party's Presidential candidate. In the home on Feb. 6, 1861, Lincoln held a party to bid farewell to friends before leaving Springfield for Washington to begin his Presidency.

The Lincoln home, one of the 10 most popular historic sites in the country, has been open

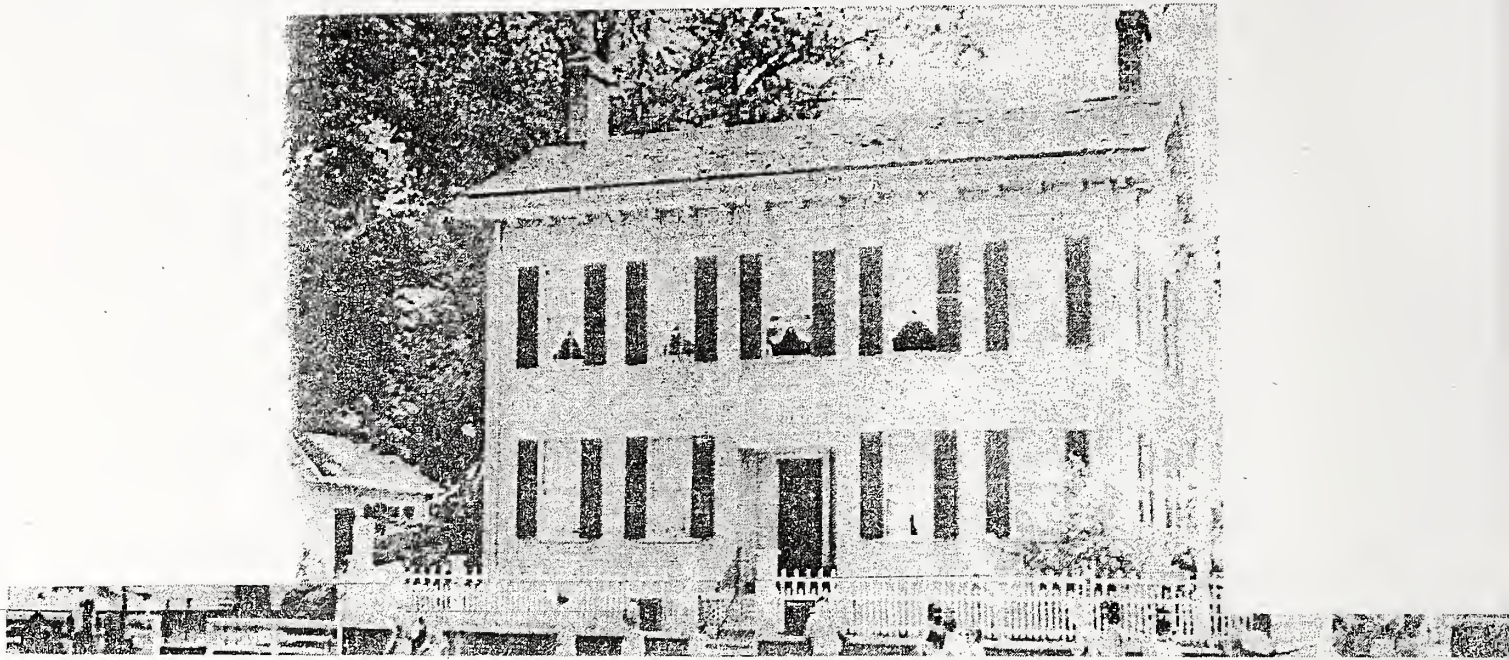
to the public since its donation to the state of Illinois by the President's son, Robert Todd Lincoln, in 1887. Much of the original furniture is still in place. It is visited by about 650,000 tourists each year.

In 1964, the Lincoln home was designated a national historic landmark, along with Lincoln's tomb in Springfield's Oak Ridge Cemetery and the Old State Capitol.

Of 18 existing buildings that will be preserved and restored in the historic site, the most notable is the Ninian Edwards House, built in 1836 on a site six blocks away from its present location on the southeast corner of 8th and Capitol Streets. It was moved across the street from the Lincoln home some years ago.

Mrs. Edwards was a sister of Mary Todd. Lincoln courted his future wife in the house and they were married in its parlor in 1842. Mrs. Lincoln's body lay in the same parlor following her death.





Abraham Lincoln's house in Springfield is the only one he ever owned. He purchased the house and lot for \$1,500 on May 2, 1844 from the Rev. Charles Dresser.

## Nixon to Sign Bill

# Lincoln Home to Come Under Federal Care

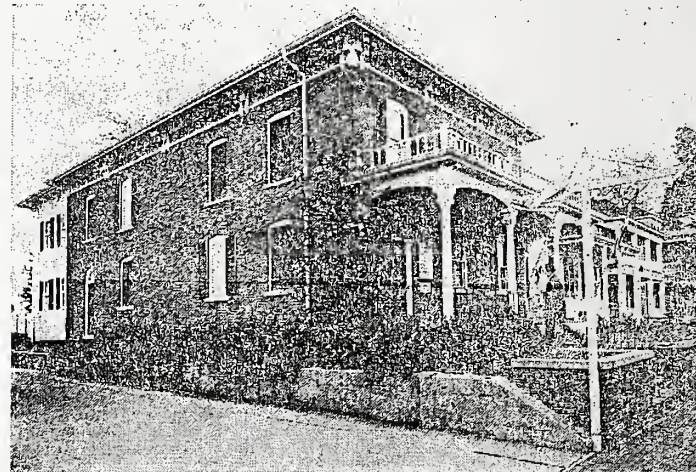
When President Nixon comes to Springfield, Ill., Wednesday, he will sign the Lincoln Home National Historic Site Act in a ceremony in the restored Old State Capitol.

The act will make the four-block area of structures associated with Lincoln's life a national historic site under the jurisdiction of the National Park Service. The bill also

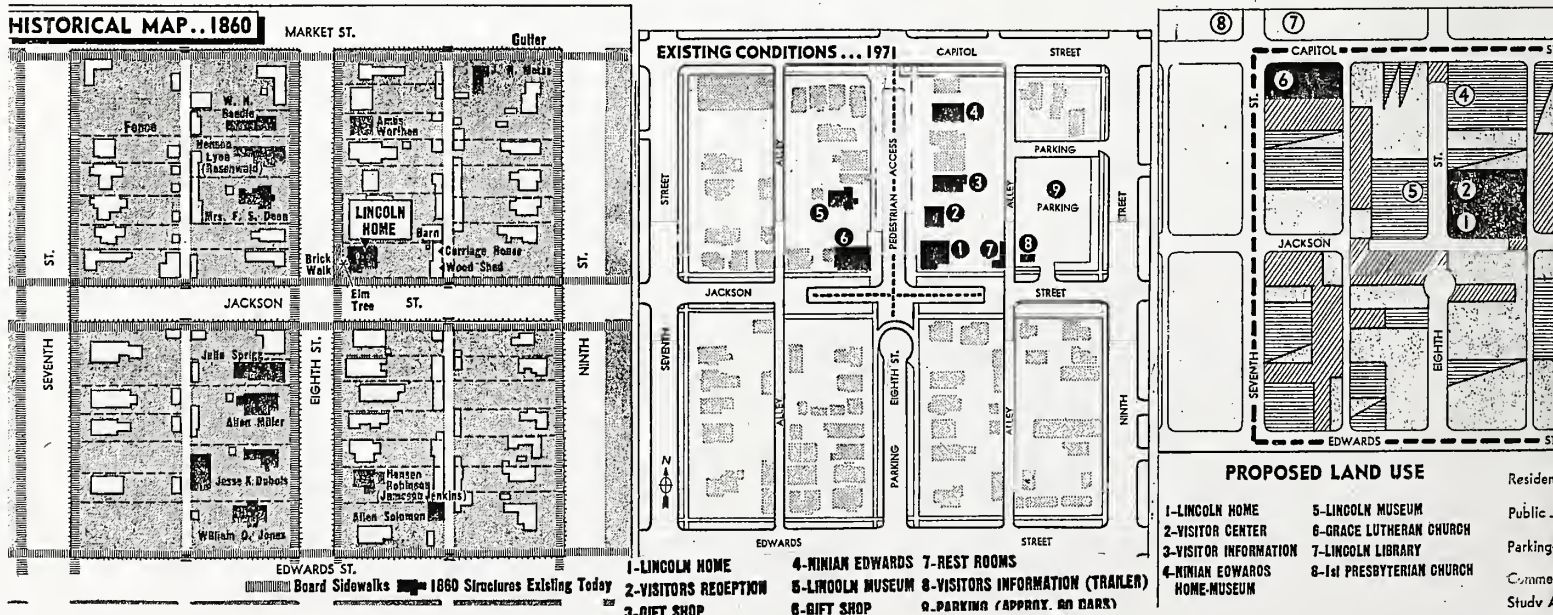
authorizes \$2 million in federal money to buy property surrounding the Lincoln home, and another \$5.83 million to restore the site as it looked when Lincoln lived there.

The maps below indicate past and present land use of the Lincoln historic site and a proposal for future rehabilitation.

TRIBUNE Staff Maps: By Tom Bunte, Tom Carollo and William Sajovic



Ninian Edwards house is where Lincoln courted and married Mary To





## President visiting Springfield

# Lincoln historic site ritual today

By Burnell Heinecke

Sun-Times Bureau

SPRINGFIELD, Ill. — President Nixon will stop in Springfield Wednesday to sign a measure establishing Abraham Lincoln's home here as a national historic site under the National Park Service.

The President will seat himself at the desk Lincoln used two weeks before he left Springfield. It was at this desk that the Civil War President composed his inaugural speech of 1861.

The desk will be moved to the center of the House of Representatives in the Old State Capitol, restored recently at a cost of more than \$10 million to the period of the 1850s when Lincoln served in the Illinois Legislature.

Only a few steps away is the

spot where Lincoln stood for his famed speech that caught the national imagination — "A house divided against itself cannot stand," Lincoln said.

### Findley wrote the bill

The witnesses to the presidential signature at noon Wednesday will include Rep. Paul Findley, the Pittsfield Republican congressman whose district includes Springfield. It was establishing the bill, historic site that Congress finally passed this year.

Other guests will include representatives of the Abraham Lincoln Assn., the Springfield Junior League, the Springfield Historic Sites Commission and the Illinois State Historical Society — all of whom have been integral parts of the restoration of the Old Capitol and efforts to preserve

and restore the Lincoln Home area to the period when the Lincoln family lived there.

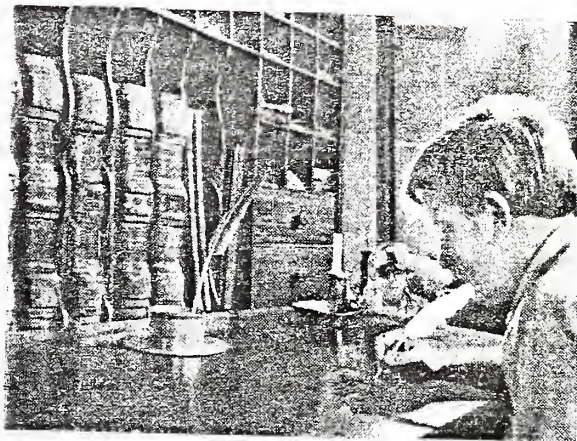
The State of Illinois has owned and maintained the building with a guide service in the home. Now an estimated \$7.8-million expenditure is planned to incorporate a four-square-block area into a national park.

### Parade to fairgrounds

The presidential caravan will enter the Old Capitol through an underground garage entrance. On his departure, however, Mr. Nixon and his party are to use the south steps and leave from the grounds before proceeding to his open limousine.

A parade route north on 6th St. in Springfield to the fairgrounds has been outlined for

White House advance men check desk used by Abraham Lincoln at Old State Capitol in Springfield where President Nixon will sign bill making area a national historical site. (UPI)



spectators. Security has prevented release of the President's itinerary on a driving tour through the fairgrounds.

The President will view several grand champion animals from the livestock show, which

is considered the largest in the nation, and meet winning exhibitors.

Gov. Ogilvie and other state Republican leaders will be on hand and guide the presidential tour. The previously sched-

uled speaking program on Republican, or Governor's Day at the fair was canceled and a smaller, more informal reception planned for 2:30 p.m. after the President's party has departed.

# Lincoln's home joins shrines

By John Camper

Of Our Springfield Bureau

SPRINGFIELD, Ill. — Abraham Lincoln's home is not as grandiose as George Washington's Mount Vernon or as interesting as Thomas Jefferson's Monticello.

The homes of those patrician Presidents had names, but Lincoln's home, like yours, has only a number, 430 S. 8th.

The brown, two-story frame house, like Lincoln himself, is plain, solid and unassuming. The 650,000 persons who visit it each year could imagine themselves living there if they had been alive in the mid-19th Century.

President Nixon, like Lincoln a product of poverty who climbed to the top, memorializes this home Wednesday when he signs a bill here designating it a national historical site.

The bill also authorizes expenditure of up to \$2 million to buy land in the four-block area surrounding the home and \$5,680,000 to restore a number of homes, sheds and sidewalks in the area. Congress is expected to appropriate the money later this year.

Mr. Nixon was to sign the bill in the Old State Capitol's House of Representatives chamber, where Lincoln served as one of Sangamon County's eight representatives from 1836 to 1842. Cook County, then considerably smaller, had only three representatives.

**THE HOME, A 10-MINUTE WALK** from the Old Capitol, was built in 1839. Lincoln, who had been renting a home two blocks west of the Capitol, bought it in 1844 from the Episcopal rector who had officiated at his marriage to Mary Todd in 1842. It was the only home Lincoln ever owned.

Three of Lincoln's four children were born in the house and one died there. The Lincoln family rented out the home from 1861, when Lincoln became President, to 1887, when Lincoln's son, Robert Todd Lincoln, donated it to the State of Illinois. The state will continue to own it until some time in the next year or so, when it will give the home to the federal government.

The government also intends to buy all the land and buildings surrounding the home on the southeast edge of downtown Springfield to halt the tide of encroachment on the area by gas stations and car washes.

It will relocate one other home, reconstruct three houses and three barns and resurface the streets and sidewalks with stone and planks.

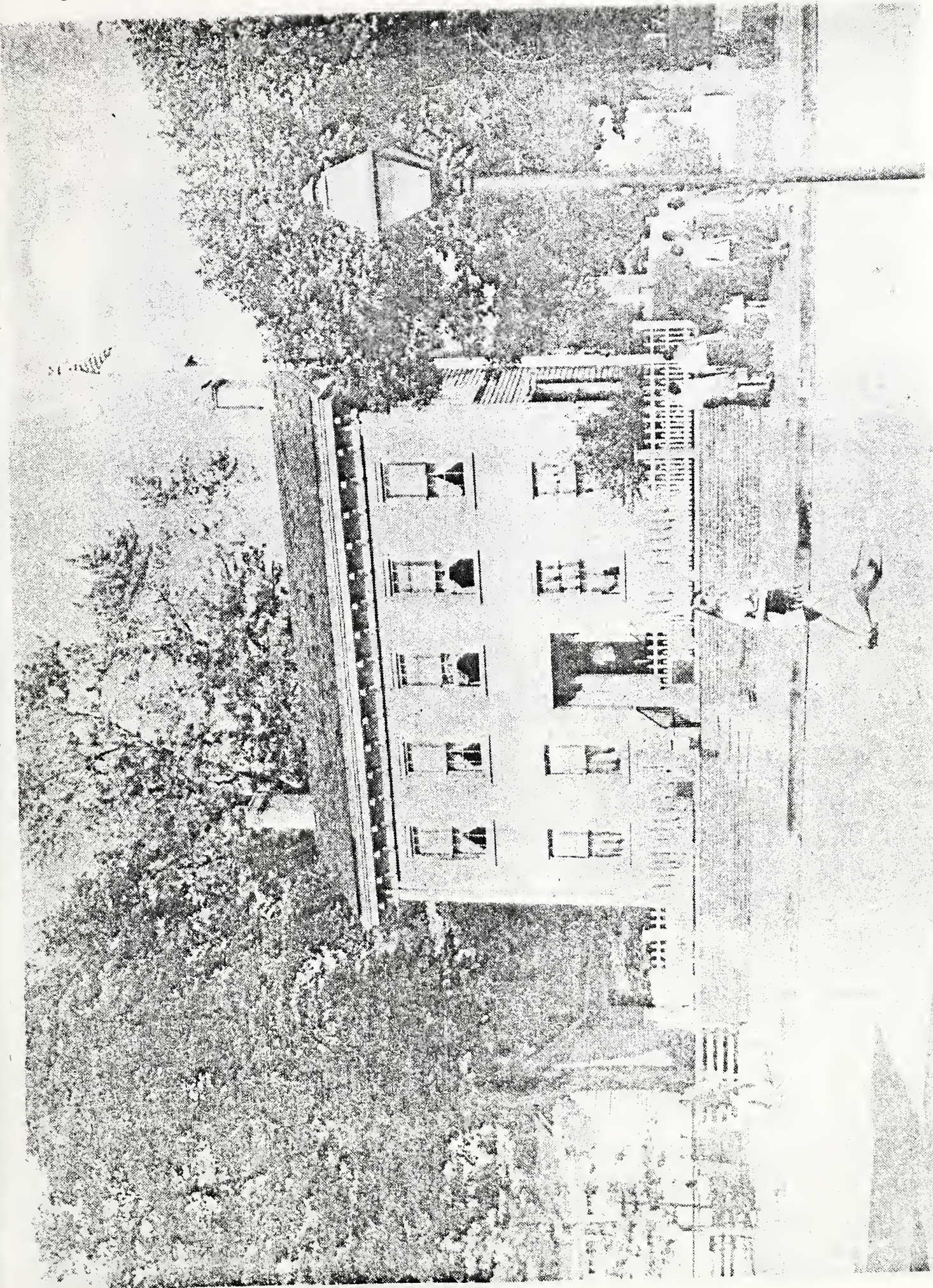
The government also plans to build visitor information centers and parking lots on the periphery of the park.

The object is to make the area look as much as possible as it did when Lincoln left Springfield for the last time in 1861, saying:

"To this place, and the kindness of these people, I owe everything. Here I have lived a quarter of a century, and have passed from a young to an old man. . . . I now leave, not knowing when, or whether ever, I may return."

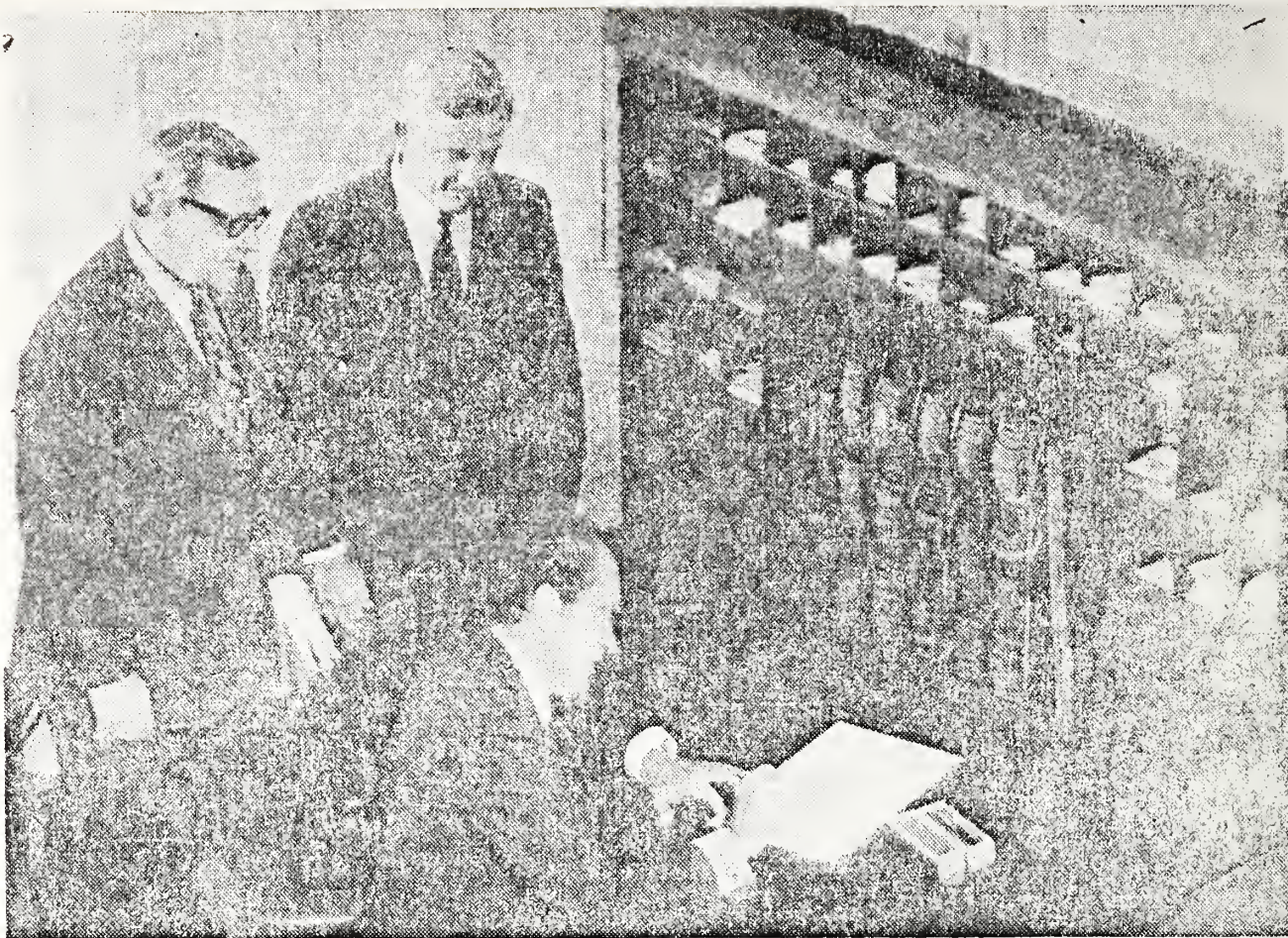
Lincoln was buried here four years later in a cemetery on the northwest edge of town.





The Abraham Lincoln House in Springfield became a national shrine when the President signed legislation Wednesday.





[TRIBUNE Staff photos: By Arthur Walker]

President signs Lincoln Home bill as Gov. Ogilvie and Rep. Paul Findley watch.

## U. S. Will Fulfill Lincoln Dream as Man's Best Hope, Nixon Says

[Continued from first page]

nation's greatest President, Nixon said.

"They have told me they think that, because he [Lincoln] was a good man, kind and compassionate—a leader in a time of war, but a man who believed in peace," he said.

### Expands on Economic Moves

Nixon expanded on his promise yesterday that his new economic moves, including a wage-price freeze, will not keep the United States from competing for leadership among the nations of the world.

Nixon said that some experts have interpreted his new economic policies to mean that the United States is building a wall around itself and will no longer compete for world leadership.

Nixon said this could be a very popular theme which would "serve the moment but not the destiny of America."

Asserting that the U. S. is the only country in the free world with the potential to lead it, Nixon said: "We will not stop trying to be No. 1."

Nixon signed the Lincoln home bill, which turns an eight-block area in downtown Springfield into a federally protected site, while standing at the desk which Lincoln himself used when he served in the Illinois legislature.

### Site of Lincoln Speech

The ceremonies took place in the old chamber of the House of Representatives where

Lincoln made his famous "house divided speech."

Nixon praised Ogilvie and other Illinois leaders for the action taken by the state to preserve the Lincoln heritage for the entire nation.

However, some Republican Party officials were disappointed that the President did not make a political pitch for Ogilvie's reelection in 1972.

The President was greeted at the airport shortly before noon by about 700 flag-waving, cheering G. O. P. partisans. Thousands lined the motorcade route to the Old Capitol, waving flags and shouting to Nixon.

A crowd of about 15,000 was on hand at the Old State Capitol to greet the President. They overflowed the new mall surrounding the building and some stood in adjacent streets.

### Police, Protesters Clash

Police clashed with a group of about 20 antiwar protesters a few minutes before the President arrived.

The trouble began when police refused a group of long-haired men and women entrance to a roped-off area on a mall where a crowd had gathered to catch a glimpse of the President.

Six plainclothes officers and uniformed police waded into the protest group, ripping up their protest signs and shoving the group aside, witnesses said.

Four of the demonstrators

were arrested. Springfield police refused to disclose any information about the arrests, saying they were holding the four persons for the Secret Service and that any details would have to come from that agency.

"Yeh, it's kinda weird," a policeman said when asked about the procedure.

Agents of the Secret Service could not be reached immediately for comment.

### Goes to Fair

After the bill signing, the President and his entourage drove to the state fair along city streets lined by hundreds of well-wishers.



A Republican political program at the fair was scheduled for today, but was canceled at the request of the White House to make the Presidential visit nonpartisan.

At a Republican Party rally at the fairgrounds home of Gordon Ropp, state agricultural director, after Nixon's plane departed, Gov. Ogilvie said the President was "greatly impressed" by the size and warmth of his welcome.

Ogilvie related to the G. O. P. crowd, which numbered about 1,500, that an unemployed steel worker had spoken to Nixon during the visit and told the President he had "done the right thing" in launching new economic directives.

Nixon replied that he believed that those actions will result in increased automobile produc-

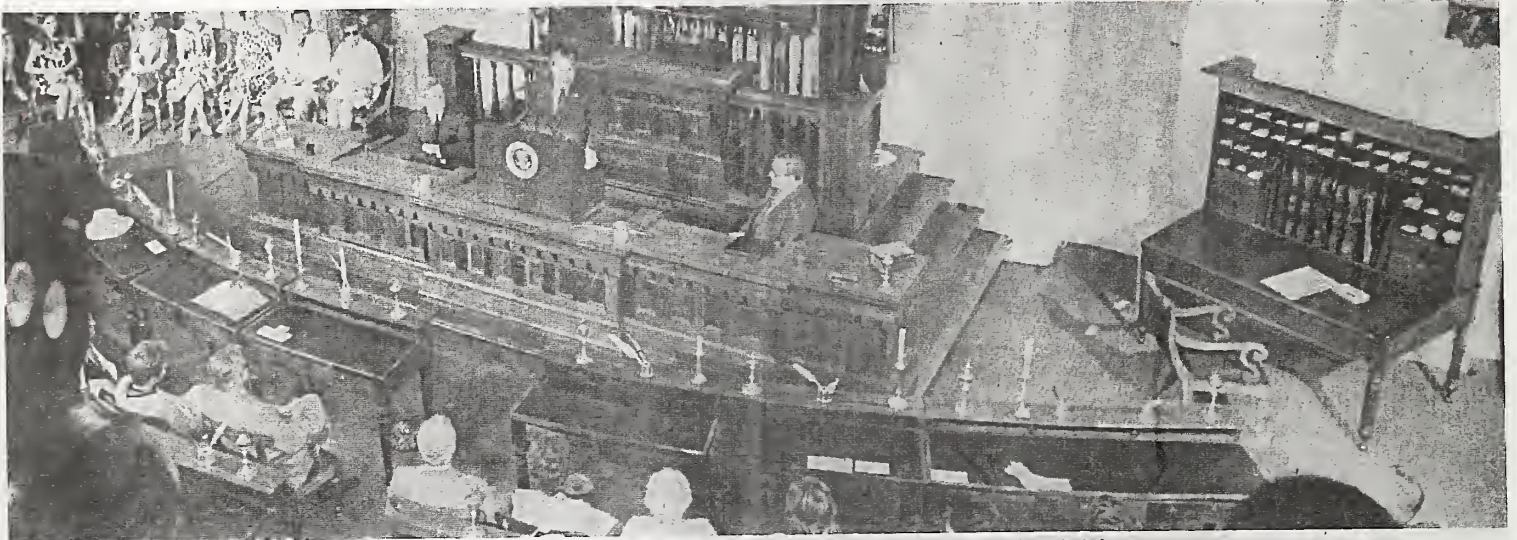
tion and put the steel worker back to work, Ogilvie said.

Nixon departed Springfield about midafternoon, flying to Idaho and then on to Jackson Hole, Wyo., where he planned to spend the night.



AUG 19, 1971

# Nixon's plea: 'Keep the faith'



President Nixon speaks at the Old State Capitol before going to Lincoln desk at right to sign bill making Lincoln's Home a national historical site.

By John Camper

Of Our Springfield Bureau

SPRINGFIELD, Ill. — President Nixon's entire visit to Illinois seemed designed to bolster the faith of Middle Americans who may have been shaken by his drastic economic policies.

His 'keep-the-faith' message was the same Wednesday both at the Old State Capitol, where he signed a bill making Lincoln's Home a national historical site, and at the Illinois State Fair, where he looked at prize cattle and shook hands with prized voters.

The message was that Americans — their wages frozen, their prices frozen, their prod-

ucts protected against foreign competition — must nevertheless keep competing, keep working hard, despite a temporary lack of incentive.

And he strove to assure them that America was still the greatest country in the world, even if its currency is a bit shaky and its economy not too sound.

HE TOLD an audience of 300 inside the Capitol and 5,000 listening to loudspeakers outside that they should not believe those who say "finally America is going to build a wall around itself. Americans can't compete so they are going to go along not trying as hard."

He said Americans should be

like Lincoln, "kind, compassionate and sincere on the one hand and strong and competitive on the other."

"For the United States of America to quit trying to be No. 1 would be a grave error," he said. "For once a nation or individual ceases to try to be No. 1, that individual or nation ceases to be a great individual or great nation and ceases to realize its total capabilities."

Again, at the Junior Livestock Building at the fair, Mr. Nixon told young farmers and 4-H members, "America is first and you are going to keep it first."

And at the Capitol he had said that Americans "must do

our best, not just enough to get by. We can't resign ourselves to being number two, three or four in 10, 15 or 25 years from now."

THE PRESIDENT made it clear that this drive and competitive spirit must come from the home of the old-fashioned virtues — "the heartland of America, not just geographically, but also because of so much it represents in the history of our country."

"I am confident that from the heartland of America will come a spirit that America needs," he said.

The President spent much of his 2 hour, 40 minute "nonpolitical" visit in an open-top car

with Gov. Richard B. Ogilvie at his side. Mr. Nixon and Ogilvie, both Republicans, are expected to seek re-election next year.

THE MOTORCADE passed along streets lined with people, many holding pro-Nixon hand-lettered signs, and into the fairgrounds where thousands more lined the route. Many of the onlookers were Republican patronage employees given a few hours off on the condition they go out to see the President. Others were active Republicans bused in from around the state.

The first stop inside the fairgrounds was at a dairy barn

displaying prize Jerseys owned by J. C. Piper and Sons of Sumner, Ill., who just happen to be active Republicans. Mrs. Perry Piper, wife of one of the sons, is Jasper County Republican chairwoman.

The President then stopped at the Junior Livestock Building to greet owners of other prize animals and wound up his tour with a brief chat with some Explorer Scouts camping at the fair.

THE PRESIDENT's pitch throughout the fair was directed at the heartland people who could be expected to give him their votes next year. He praised "this great occupation

of farming and agriculture" and said he was happy people haven't forsaken old-fashioned things like fairs for more sophisticated entertainment.

"I'm glad people still like fairs," he said. "You sort of get the feeling that with television and all that, people don't like fairs. But they tell me this year's attendance is above last year's."

The President flew from Springfield to Jackson Hole, Wyo., Wednesday afternoon. He was scheduled to address the national convention of the Veterans of Foreign Wars in Dallas Thursday afternoon before flying to his vacation home in San Clemente, Calif.

## Country music fan

From Our Springfield Bureau

SPRINGFIELD, Ill. — President Nixon's musical preference appears to match his political re-election strategy — country and western with a strong Southern accent.

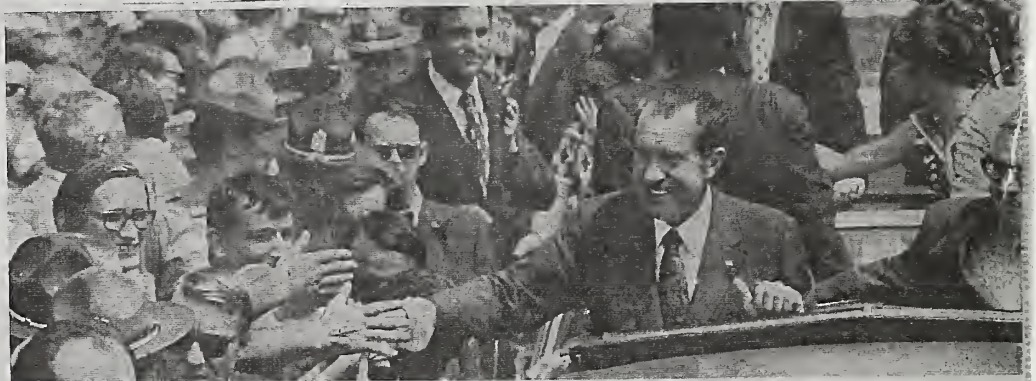
The President waxed enthusiastic about hillbilly music Wednesday after his motorcade through the Illinois State Fair took him past such groups as The Country Cousins, The New Country Rebels and the Country Gents.

"This fair has great entertainment," the President gushed while touring a cattle barn. "All that country music. Wow! They ought to have a contest."

"We've had country music in the White House," he told reporters and fairgoers clustered around him. "It's something when you first hear it, you wonder about it. But I like it."

"I like the lyrics because they're so original. The singers, Glen Campbell, all those other fellows, Johnny Cash . . . they're a great bunch of fellows. They've done work in drug abuse."

"It's decent music; good music. I tell you, they're really got a heart."



The President greets the crowd as he rides through the grounds of the Illinois State Fair. (Daily News Photos/Charles Krejci)







(TRIBUNE Staff Photo By Walter Reed)

President Nixon leaning over Gov. Ogilvie to greet well-wishers at the Illinois State Fair in Springfield.

## Nixon Will Fulfill Lincoln Hope: Nixon

By THE STAFF WRITER

SPRINGFIELD, Ill., Aug. 18 (AP)—President Nixon vowed today the United States will continue to be a world leader and fulfill Abraham Lincoln's dream that America is "the last best hope on earth." The pledge came as he signed a bill at ceremonies here at restored Old State Capitol that declares Lincoln's home here a national historic site.

Lincoln's unpopularity

The signing came during a second Presidential visit to Springfield during which Nixon is honored by about 175,000 citizens at the state fair and during his parade route.

Gov. Ogilvie was on hand for the signing ceremony, and compared Lincoln's circum-

### Nixon Hailed at State Fair

page 2

stances as a Civil War President.

to the problems which Nixon and other leaders now face.

"Lincoln knew what it was to be unpopular and to make the difficult decisions which must be made," Ogilvie said. "Only history can judge whether there is a parallel."

Drawing on his own knowledge of history, Nixon called upon Americans to learn about Lincoln's "sense of destiny" and to relate the Lincoln legacy to present problems.

Of the many foreign visitors who have come to the White House, most see Lincoln as our

[Continued on page 2, col. 1]

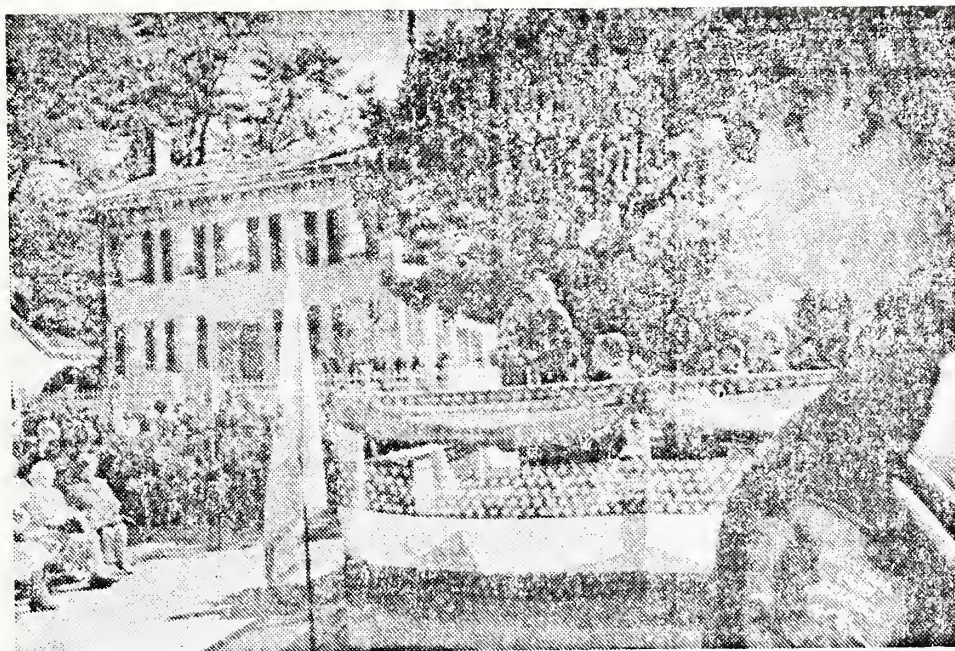
## *Abe's home turned over to U.S.*

SPRINGFIELD, Ill. (UPI) — The federal government officially took possession of the only home Abraham Lincoln ever owned Monday when Interior Sec. Rogers C. B. Morton presided at ceremonies establishing it as a national historic site.

The family home, a two-story frame building owned since 1887 by the State of Illinois, has been maintained as a museum while the city built up around it.

The house and four city blocks adjacent to it have been declared a national historic site administered by the Interior Department.

Lincoln lived in the house for 17 years.



AP Wirephoto

## Lincoln Home Dedicated

A Park Service trooper watches ceremony in which the home of Abraham Lincoln was dedicated yesterday as a U. S. Historic site.

SPRINGFIELD, Ill., Oct. 9 [UPI] — The federal government officially took possession of the only home Abraham Lincoln ever owned today when Interior Secretary Rogers C. B. Morton presided at ceremonies establishing it as a national historic site.

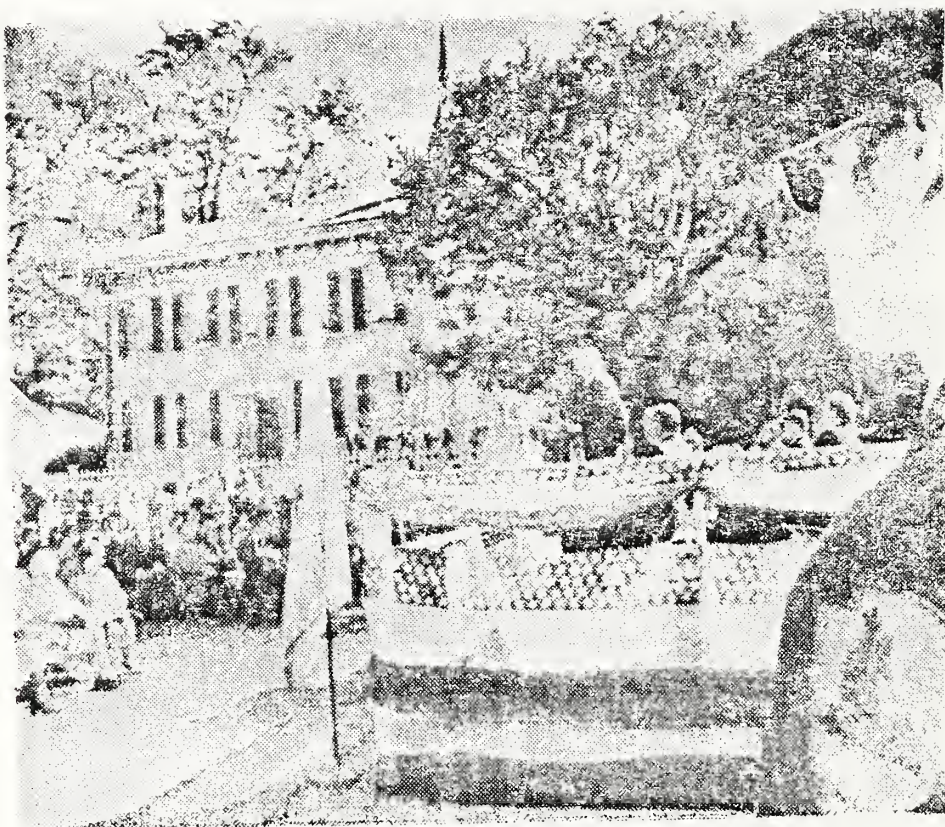
The family home, a two-story frame building owned since 1887 by the State of Illinois,

has been maintained as a museum while the city built up around it.

A law passed by Congress declared the house and four city blocks adjacent to it a national historic site administered by the Interior Department. Lincoln lived in the house for 17 years while a lawyer in the state capital.



CHICAGO SUN-TIMES  
Chicago, Ill.  
Oct. 10, 1972



## ***Lincoln home a national site***

At dedication ceremonies in Springfield, Ill., Monday, Interior Sec. Rogers C.B. Morton accepted the deed to the only home that Abraham Lincoln ever owned and declared the two-story structure a national historic site. About 400 persons attended the ceremony. (AP)



# Only 400 persons attend Lincoln home dedication

By NICHOLAS D'ALESSIO  
Associated Press Writer

SPRINGFIELD, ILL. — In the heat of the present political campaigns, when most major candidates are on the road, it's hardly surprising that only 400 persons showed up in Springfield last week for the dedication of a new historic site.

The building being dedicated, after all, was nothing more than the two-story frame house of a one-time lawyer who lived in it for a few years after he managed to get elected to the state legislature. He later moved East, bolted his original party and joined a rather unpopular third-party movement which went into a decline after the defeat of its first presidential candidate.

**HIS LACK OF** popularity in Illinois then is probably understandable since he was physically unattractive, had a high-pitched and rather unpleasant speaking voice, and was subject to frequent spells of deep depression — according to some authorities, almost of a psychotic nature.

To make matters worse, later researchers found out he never attended college or law school, had a reputation as a drinker and was addicted to what could only be called barnyard humor.

His married life was stormy at best, and after his death his widow was committed to a mental institution.

**ALTHOUGH FOR** a brief time he achieved national fame — or notoriety, some thought — his attitude toward

the major issues could only be classified today as naive. At one point in his career, when the race question began heating up, he advocated the idea of merely shipping the blacks back to Africa where they came from.

In Illinois, which has a history of political dynasties, his family never really amounted to much.

Among those who did attend last week's dedication of Abraham Lincoln's home, the only one he ever owned, was Secretary of the Interior Rogers C. B. Morton, who accepted the deed to it on behalf of the federal government.

**MORTON, WHO** comes from Kentucky, said he thinks he was the right person to accept the deed, since, as most Americans know, Lincoln was born in a log cabin in Kentucky.

Others on hand for the ceremony were U. S. Reps. Wayne Aspinall (Dem.), Colo-

rado, and Paul Findley (Rep.), Illinois, who were active in the fight to keep the home from being surrounded by hot dog stands.

The most prominent Illinois figure at the dedication was in the audience rather than on the speaker's stand. He was former Gov. Otto Kerner, who is now on leave from the 7th U.S. Court of Appeals. Kerner is currently under indictment for bribery, fraud, perjury and income tax evasion.

Gov. Richard B. Ogilvie missed the ceremony because he was busy stumping the state with his tax reform proposals. His Democratic opponent, attorney Dan Walker, along with senatorial candidates Charles Percy and Roman Pucinsky, was in the reviewing stand of the Chicago Columbus Day parade with First Lady Pat Nixon and Chicago Mayor Richard J. Daley.



Tribune Photo by George Quinn

Even though current law decrees Abraham Lincoln's birthday as Monday, the Illinois Bicentennial Commission took to the streets Wednesday to remind people that Thursday is his calendar birthday. Charles Ott of Downstate Lincoln portrayed Abe as a railsplitter and helped hand out free cake on Michigan Avenue.

## Lincoln home funds sought

By Arthur Siddon

Chicago Tribune Press Service

WASHINGTON—Rep. Paul Findley [R., Pittsfield] asked Congress Wednesday to provide \$1.2 million to help develop the Lincoln Home National Historic Site in Springfield.

The Springfield house, the only home President Lincoln ever owned, was first declared a national historic site in 1971 and has undergone extensive renovation since then.

"Today, on the eve of Lincoln's birthday, I am introducing a bill which will permit the completion of the Lincoln Home National Historic Site," Findley said in a speech on the

House floor.

"ZOOMING COSTS, coupled with land acquisition delays, require an additional expenditure to ensure the completion of the site. My bill authorizes an additional \$1,056,000 for land acquisition and relocation assistance."

In addition, Findley is asking \$150,000 to purchase furniture once owned by the Lincolns in Springfield.

"Lincoln sold these items before leaving Springfield to assume the presidency," said Findley. "They are now owned by the Historical Society of Pennsylvania. For the first time in over 75 years, this furniture is now for sale."



## Lincoln Shrine in Ill. Losing Lure

By MARY BOHLEN  
SPRINGFIELD, Ill. (UPI)  
— Old Man Winter and Uncle Sam haven't been kind to Honest Abe this year.

As residents of his hometown prepared to celebrate Abraham Lincoln's 173rd birthday Friday, the superintendent of his house had gloomy news.

The Midwest's severe winter and hard economic times are hurting tourist traffic to the Lincoln Home National Historic Site, Superintendent Al Banton said Thursday.

January visitation was down 37 percent from the same month last year. Then, 8,602 people visited the only home Lincoln ever owned and the site's 13 other historic buildings. There were 5,367 visitors last month.

"We're hoping, of course, that summer and cabin fever will bring people out," Banton said.

City officials noted last summer that the flow of visitors to the two-story frame home has been falling since it was taken over by the National Park Service in 1973.

The Great Emancipator bought the house for \$1,500 in 1844 and lived there until becoming president in 1861.

The officials were mystified since the site has been upgraded, it is popular with foreign tourists and other Lincoln shrines maintain their popularity.

"Old Abe's bedroom, I guess, has simply lost its sex appeal," Fred Puglia of the city's tourism bureau joked last summer.

Banton said record snowfalls and sub-zero temperatures this winter have added new problems.

"We've spent a lot of time shoveling snow and repairing frozen water pipes," he said, adding that Lincoln's home has not been damaged.

Besides battling the elements, Banton's staff has adjusted to federal budget tightening that sliced the site's fiscal 1982 budget 4.4 percent from the prior year. The site is operating with \$608,900 this year and does not expect more trimming.

"We've gotten our cuts and we're making adjustments," Banton said. He said hiring of seasonal workers will be down this summer and fewer walking tours will be available.



### ***Fewer Visitors Registered At Lincoln's Homestead***

Harsh winter weather combined with a lingering Midwest recession have been blamed for a disturbing drop in the number of visitors to the Abraham Lincoln home in Springfield, Ill.

In addition to a big drop in attendance in January, there has also been a steady decline over the decade since the National Park Service took over the 142-year-old building.

Superintendent Al Banton said that only 5,367 persons visited the home in January, compared to more than 8,600 a year ago. The homestead includes the only home that Lincoln ever owned, along with 13 nearby historic structures.

Lincoln purchased the house in 1844 for a mere \$1,500, and called it home for 17 years before he became president in 1861.

Local officials find the attendance trend puzzling, because the site has been upgraded, and among foreign visitors it remains a top attraction. At the same time, other Lincoln sites in the city have gained visitors.

The site has also gotten bad news in the form of budget cuts, with less money to operate on this year than in 1981.-kt

# Abe slept here

## Lincoln home back to basics

By CHAD CARLTON  
of the Chicago Tribune

SPRINGFIELD, Ill. — Clunking boardwalks and white picket fences lead up to the freshly painted, two-story dwelling.

The shiny coat of mocha brown only hints at what a yearlong, \$2.2 million renovation has done to the 149-year-old house. A coal-black nameplate on the walnut door explains all the fuss.

"A. LINCOLN," silver-leaf, block letters read.

The National Park Service has transformed the timeworn shelter into a time-warped showplace, using the skills of nearly 100 carpenters, researchers, architects, refinishers and others.

The home, where Lincoln lived for 17 years, is the only house the 16th U.S. president ever owned. It's the centerpiece of a preserved four-block neighborhood — a snapshot of upper-middle class abodes of the mid-19th century — where gaslight street lamps and sprawling trees border the wide streets, which are off limits to cars.

Myriad changes — some visible, some not — have been made since the landmark was closed in May of last year. And, in the process, researchers and workers have uncovered several lost pieces of the past, including a cache of letters.

The anticipated 1 million people who will visit the home in the next 12 months will see a splash of color — mostly in replica rugs, wallpaper and drapes.

Somber tones, the mark of past restoration efforts, have been proved wrong by re-examination of old photographs, written descriptions and known tastes of the times.

Nowhere are the livelier shades more visible than the dining room.

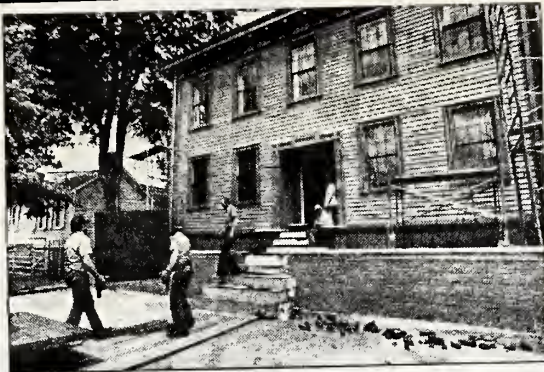
Brilliant bouquets of flowers — red, pink, blue, yellow and orange — leap out of the gray wallpaper. Another spectrum of colors is woven into the handmade carpet.

The color coordination is not as evident in the connecting sitting room, where young Ted and Willie played by day and guests chatted with Abe and Mary by night.

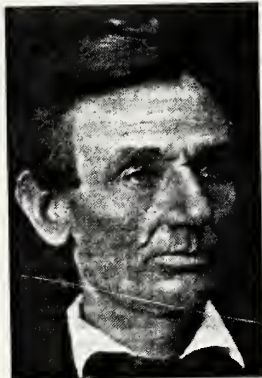
Kelly green drapes flow from ceiling to floor, burgundy wallpaper with cream swirls covers the walls and a gold-trimmed mirror hangs near the front.

Decorators consulted several historians and mid-Victorian-era decorating guides before completing the setting, said park historian George Painter.

Visitors also will notice a homey



THE NEW LOOK OF LINCOLN'S HOME: Restoration has introduced colorful decorations and new details.



THE RAIL-SPLITTER: Abraham Lincoln as he looked in 1860.

touch with the addition of knickknacks on tables and personal possessions left around the rooms.

Slate gray carpeting and a wood-grain railing, separating the present from the past, lead visitors into the front parlor.

There, figurines sit on a table and candelabra rest on the mantel. Small busts, including one of Lincoln, and flower vases are on shelves.

In the adjoining back parlor, a discarded newspaper lies on a black horsehair upholstered couch. The back parlor was a library where Lincoln spent hours reading William Shakespeare's works and drafting political speeches, Painter said.

Books and papers are scattered across the marble-top octagonal table, a testament to Lincoln's disorganization. And a ceramic spittoon for guests (Lincoln didn't chew) sits at the end of the couch.

Upstairs in the boys' room, dominoes and marbles seem ready for play. A writing slate and books appear ready for work.

But the most candid addition to the home is an unfettered stroll through the Lincolns' separate bedrooms, a commonplace arrangement in the mid-19th century.

The wallpaper, with its piercing cobalt blue swashes and a tangle of brown and white, invigorates the rooms.

A four-poster bed seems too short for Abe's lanky frame, but the 6-foot-4-inch statesman fit comfortably, Painter assured.

A shaving mirror, one of the 65 original Lincoln pieces in the home, is adjusted to just the right height. And two straight-edge razors sit on a wash basin ready for trimming around Lincoln's beard.

In Mary's room, combs rest on the dresser and a dress drapes across her bed. A white porcelain foot tub stands ready for soaking beside the tin stove.

Before, visitors could only glance into the two rooms because the floors were weak. The tour took people through the guest room and into the boys' room through doors cut out during a 1950s renovation.

Now, those doors have been walled over and people will walk through the middle of the Lincolns' rooms — bounded by the carpet trail, but not railings.

"We wanted to let people experience the room," said Vance Kominski, supervisor of the park service project.

The up-close view was made possible by reinforcing the sagging floors with steel beams, which are just some of the improvements made to the home that are invisible to visitors, said Kominski, an architect.

A snaking mass of ductwork, plumbing and wiring now lies hidden in the walls, floors, ceilings and basement.

The modern additions include smoke detectors, a sprinkler system, intruder alarms and heating and cooling systems.

Kominski said the equipment was added to protect and strengthen most of its authenticity.

Termites had gnawed away at wooden beams, and sunlight and changing humidity had taken their toll on the furniture.

Workers added tons of concrete and steel below the house for support. Storm sashes were placed on the windows to filter out ultraviolet rays. Insulation was added inside the walls and a \$76,000 heating and cooling system was stowed away in the basement and the back yard.

In the innards of Lincoln's home, workers made several finds. As they were peeling back a kitchen wall to add insulation, they

## Abe's home

What: The Lincoln Home  
National Historic Site

Where: 426 S. Seventh St.,  
Springfield, Ill.

Hours/admission: 8:30 a.m.  
to 7:30 p.m. seven days a  
week (8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.  
after Labor Day). Closed  
Thanksgiving, Christmas and  
New Year's Day. No admission  
charge.

Getting there: Take U.S. 24  
west from Fort Wayne to  
Chenoa, Ill. Head south on  
Interstate 55 to Springfield.  
Take the Sixth Street exit;  
watch for signs.

Information: Call (217)  
492-4150.

came across a stack of documents buried beneath crumbled plaster.

Four letters to Lincoln, an envelope, a printed congressional speech and a newspaper clipping were apparently stuffed beneath the baseboard by the Lincoln children, said Thomas Schwartz, curator of the Lincoln Collection at the Illinois Historical Library.

None of the items proved to be of great historical significance. But the newspaper clipping — a large advertisement for lightning rods — bolsters the belief that Mary was deathly afraid of lightning storms.

While workers were probing the walls of the home, they also came upon a hidden stairway that had been covered by Lincoln-era remodeling.

This stairway led off of the main stairway to an east wing garret, likely used as a maid's quarters and for storage, Painter said.

Another architectural discovery was the number of additions made to the home during the Lincolns' stay.

Lincoln bought the 5-year-old house in the spring of 1844 from the Rev. Charles Dresser, who married the Lincolns.

During the 17 years the Lincolns

lived in the home, six separate additions turned the simple, single-story cottage into a spacious, two-story house, Kominski said.

Historians aren't sure whether Abe authorized the changes or Mary had them made while her husband, a traveling lawyer who was gone half of each year, was out riding the 8th Judicial Circuit, Painter said.

Perhaps the historical find that people will most notice is the true colors of the home's exterior. For years it was painted a light, muddy brown. But researchers discovered it originally was darker — a shade likened to coffee with cream — and the authentic color has been restored.

The costly restoration effort now gives visitors a look back in time to the centerpiece of Springfield's upper-middle-class neighborhood in 1861.

"At the time Lincoln left for Washington, this is the way it looked," Kominski said. "This is the way he would remember it." S

## HAWAII

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\$258, Restrictions Apply. Hotel, Transfers. Dec. 29-Jan. 3, Air, Hotel, Meals and Entertainment

ITAPA, MEXICO - 1 Week from DELUXE ROSE BOWL TOUR '375 - Air, Transfers, Au  
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# Speaking Of People



## TELEPHONE COMPANY GENERAL ATTORNEY

Lynwood J. Evans is the Arizona general attorney for the Mountain States Telephone & Telegraph Company in Phoenix. He is responsible for all legal strategies concerning the company with special emphasis on regulatory and public affairs matters. On a daily basis, he counsels and advises the company's vice president and CEO. He is a graduate of St. Benedict's College in Atchison, Kansas, and the University of Missouri College of Law. He is the father of a daughter, Lynette.

## PARK MANAGER

Gentry Davis is park manager for the Lincoln Home National Historic Site in Springfield, Ill., and is the Illinois state coordinator for the National Park Service. The Lincoln Home, which was owned by President Abraham Lincoln's family, attracts more than 800,000 people annually, and it is Davis' duty to coordinate all Site activities. He is a graduate of Grambling University and has studied law enforcement. He and his wife, Mary, have three children, Courtney, Corey and Gerrelda.



When we  
pull together,  
we all come out  
ahead.

Even the highest goals can be achieved when folks work together with a common purpose. And we're proud to be helping communities all over America thrive and prosper, with our Minority Vendor Development Program, urban investments, Helping Hands volunteer services and the support of the Allstate Foundation. It means a better life for us all.

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# Springfield, area to celebrate Lincoln's Birthday Feb. 10-12

Abraham Lincoln's 181st birthday will be celebrated in Springfield and throughout central Illinois in events Feb. 10-12.

## Events include:

- "Abraham Lincoln: A Biography in Words and Music" will be given by two actors and the Springfield Symphony Chorus at 2 p.m. Feb. 10 and 11 at the Lincoln Home Visitor Center, 426 S. Seventh St.

Preceding the Sunday performance, awards will be presented to students who participated in the statewide Lincoln Essay Competition sponsored by the Lincoln Home National Historic Site. The programs are free.

- The ninth annual Lincoln's Birthday Open House will be held from noon to 8 p.m. Feb. 10 at the Mount Pulaski Courthouse. Refreshments will be served and period music played from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Special programs during the afternoon will commemorate the 125th anniversary of the end of the Civil War. All events are free.

- Fritz Klein, Lincoln Impersonator, will present "Farewell to Mr. Lincoln" at 7:30 p.m. Feb. 10 in the Old State Capitol, portraying Lincoln receiving visitors just after he was elected president. A candlelight tour of the building will follow; admission is free.

- The 43rd annual Pilgrimage to Lincoln's Tomb by the Veterans of Foreign Wars will begin at 10:30 a.m. Feb. 11. A grand parade of flags will take participants from the entrance of Oak Ridge Cemetery to the front of Lincoln's Tomb.

- The DePriest Puppets will present "Abraham Lincoln: New Salem to Springfield" at 2 p.m. and 3 p.m. Feb. 11 at the Old State Capitol. The program is designed especially for children.

- Events on Feb. 12 will start with the Lincoln Heritage Lectures, presented in the Lincoln Home Visitor Center starting at 9:30 a.m.

Speakers will be Richard Current, Lincoln scholar, on "Have The Body: Lincoln, Taney, and Merryman;" and Daniel Weinberg, proprietor of the Abraham Lincoln Book Shop in Chicago, on "Adventures in Lincoln Collecting." Admission is free.

- The 56th annual Pilgrimage to Lincoln's Tomb by members of Springfield Legion Post 32 will be at 10 a.m. Feb. 12. The national commander of the American Legion will speak at 10:30 a.m., and the Sweet Adelines will sing patriotic songs.

- Lincoln as a trial lawyer will be the theme of a re-enactment titled "Lincoln at the Bar" at 10 a.m. Feb. 12 at the Mount Pulaski Courthouse. Cases in which Lincoln served as an attorney will be portrayed by actors.

- The 17th annual Abraham Lincoln Symposium will start at 1:30 p.m. Feb. 12 at the Old Capitol. The symposium draws people from around the world interested in Lincoln's life and accomplishments.

James M. McPherson, professor of American history at Princeton University, will present "The Hedgehog and the Foxes: Lincoln and Some Contemporaries." William Geinapp, professor of history at Harvard University, will speak on "Abraham Lincoln and the Border States." Wrapping up the afternoon will be comments by Mark Neely, director of the Louis A. Warren Lincoln Library and Museum in Fort Wayne, Ind. He is finishing a study of Lincoln and the constitution, as well as a photographic study of the Lincoln family.

- The annual Abraham Lincoln Association Banquet will be held at 7 p.m. Feb. 12 at the Ramada Renaissance. The "Lincoln the Lawyer Award" will be presented to Harlington Wood Jr., circuit judge of the U.S. Court of Appeals.

Featured speaker will be Mortimer Adler, author and philosopher, who will offer a philosopher's perspective on the Lincoln theme. For banquet reservation information, phone 782-4836.



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# New trave

## Abe's birthday

The people of Springfield, Ill. like to celebrate Abraham Lincoln's birthday with a series of events.

This year, the first of these is "Abraham Lincoln: A Biography in Words and Music," performed Feb. 6-7 at the Lincoln Home Visitors Center. The event is a recreation of an old-fashioned political rally with a professional actor performing excerpts from Lincoln's stump speeches and music by the Springfield Symphony Chorus.

Scheduled for Feb. 12, Lincoln's real birthday, is a series of lectures at the visitors center, a pilgrimage to Lincoln's tomb and a symposium at the Old State Capitol.

There are plenty of other Lincoln spots to hit, including his old law offices, New Salem and the Illinois State Museum, featuring an exhibit called "At Home in the Heartland."

For information on Lincoln events, call 800-545-7300; for information on the Illinois State Museum, call 217-782-5507.

☆GPO: 1972-483-437/90

## Lincoln Home

NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE • ILLINOIS

Lincoln Home National Historic Site is administered by the National Park Service, U.S. Department of the Interior. A superintendent, whose address is Springfield, IL 62701, is in immediate charge.

As the Nation's principal conservation agency, the Department of the Interior has basic responsibilities for water, fish, wildlife, mineral, land, park, and recreational resources. Indian and Territorial affairs are other major concerns of America's "Department of Natural Resources." The Department works to assure the wisest choice in managing all our resources so each will make its full contribution to a better United States—now and in the future.

National Park Service  
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

National Parks Centennial 1872-1972



On February 11, 1861, Abraham Lincoln, president-elect of the United States, stood bareheaded in a cold rain and spoke to the people of Springfield before leaving for Washington, D.C.:

*My Friends: no one, not in my situation, can appreciate my feeling of sadness at this parting. To this place, and the kindness of these people, I owe everything. Here I have lived a quarter of a century and have passed from a young to an old man. Here my children have been born and one is buried. I now leave, not knowing when or whether ever I may return, with a task before me greater than that which rested upon Washington. Without the assistance of that Divine Being who ever attended him, I cannot succeed. With that assistance, I cannot fail. Trusting in Him who can go with me, and remain with you, and be everything for good, let us confidently hope that all will yet be well. To His care commending you, as I hope in your prayers you will commend me, I bid you an affectionate farewell.*

He had come to Springfield, the seat of Sangamon County and a city of 1,400 people, on April 15, 1837, as the law partner of John Todd Stuart. Carl Sandburg tells the story of how Lincoln walked into Joshua Speed's store and asked the price of bedclothes. Seventeen dollars was the answer. "Cheap as it is," Lincoln said, "I have not the money to pay, but if you will credit me until Christmas, and my experiment here as a lawyer is a success, I will pay you then. If I fail in that I will probably never pay at all." Speed took pity on this "gloomy and melancholy" face and offered to share his living quarters above the store. Lincoln accepted and a friendship was born.

Though Lincoln was a new resident of Springfield, he was not a stranger to the town. Since 1834, Lincoln had represented Sangamon County in the Illinois General Assembly and helped to move the capital from Vandalia to Springfield. The prairie city was growing rapidly. A newspaperman wrote in 1839 that Springfield contained "a throng of stores, taverns, and shops . . . an agreeable assemblage of dwelling houses very neatly painted, most of them white, and situated somewhat retiringly behind tasteful frontyards."

For Lincoln, the young lawyer and up-and-coming State legislator, Springfield possessed opportunities which could only enhance his already promising future. Here Lincoln could meet politicians and local leaders from all over the State. One was Stephen A. Douglas, a State senator, who defeated



Lincoln in the 1858 election for the U.S. Senate and whom, among others, Lincoln defeated for the Presidency in 1860. And here he met Mary Todd, his wife-to-be.

This picture, taken in 1860, shows Lincoln and his son William standing in the frontyard.

Courtesy Chicago Historical Society



Mary Todd came from a prominent family. She was born in Lexington, Ky., on December 13, 1818, the daughter of Robert Smith Todd, president of the Bank of Kentucky. She grew up amid all the comforts which the times and area offered: she went to private school which only children of the "best families" attended, and slaves waited on her. Her family and the society in which she moved put great stress on one's upbringing and family. In short, she grew up in much different surroundings than did the man who became her husband. And when she and Lincoln decided to marry, her family found it difficult to accept.

Mary Todd came to Springfield in 1839 to live with her sister, Elizabeth, who was married to Ninian Wirt Edwards, the son of a former Governor of Illinois. A cousin of Mary Todd was Lincoln's law partner, and it is likely that this connection led to an introduction. Their relationship waxed and waned as the months passed, but in the fall of 1842 they decided to marry. On the morning of November 4, 1842, Lincoln went to the home of Dr. Charles Dresser, the Episcopal minister, and told him, "I want to get hitched tonight." Lincoln and Mary wanted to be married in the minister's home because of her family's opposition. But when her family found out that she was determined to go through with it, they relented and the ceremony took place in the Edwards' home that night.

The Lincolns began their married life in Springfield's Globe Tavern. Room and board cost them \$4 a week. Here on August 1, 1843, Robert Todd Lincoln was born. He was the first of four sons and the only one to grow to manhood.

The Lincolns soon found that a boardinghouse was not a good place to raise a child, and on January 7, 1844, Lincoln signed a contract to buy Rev. Charles Dresser's house at Eighth and Jackson Streets. Lincoln gave Dresser \$1,200 in cash and a lot valued at \$300.

In this house the other three Lincoln children were born: Edward Baker, on March 10, 1846; William Wallace, December 21, 1850; and Thomas, April 4, 1853. Here too, their second son died on February 1, 1850. It was a hard blow for the parents who loved and indulged their children beyond the accepted standards of the age. William Herndon, a later law partner and early biographer of Lincoln, thought the children were "brats." Lincoln often would take them into the office and forget them as he became immersed in a law problem. They scurried all over the place, got into every drawer, and drew pictures on any piece of paper close at hand. Lincoln was oblivious to it all. Herndon could not abide such behavior, yet he dared not say anything because he knew Lincoln would side with the boys.

By 1841, Lincoln had served four terms in the Illinois General Assembly. He was ready and anxious for bigger things, namely a seat in Congress. In February 1843, Lincoln wrote to Robert S. Thomas, an influential Whig, that "if you should hear any one say that Lincoln don't [sic] want to go to Congress, I wish you as a personal friend of mine would tell him you have reason to believe he is mistaken." Lincoln had to wait, however,



until 1846 to be nominated by the Whigs. On election day, August 3, he polled a majority of 1,262 votes over two opponents. The first session of the 30th Congress was to convene December 6, 1847. In October, after renting the house to Cornelius Ludlum for \$90 a year and reserving the "North-up-stairs room" for storage of their furniture, the Lincolns set off for Washington, going by way of Lexington to visit Mary's family. After an arduous stagecoach and railroad trip, they arrived in the Nation's Capital on December 2.

Lincoln's opposition to the Mexican War soon made him unpopular with his constituents. Though he voted yea on all supply bills for the army, Lincoln continually charged that "the war with Mexico was unnecessarily and unconstitutionally commenced." Not the least issue in the debates was that of slavery. Whether these newly won territories would be open to slavery was the most serious question before the 30th Congress. The debates over the war and the Wilmot Proviso, which would have prohibited the extension of slavery to any territories acquired from Mexico, showed Lincoln the explosiveness and divisiveness of the slavery question.

Before even going to Washington, Lincoln had decided to serve only one term, as tradition in his district more or less required. Thus in the spring of 1848, he returned to Springfield and his law practice, probably glad to be back home.

For the next 10 years, Lincoln practiced law, rode the circuit, and, after 1855, became increasingly involved in the politics of the young Republican party. In 1854 he made speeches in behalf of Richard Yates who was running for reelection to Congress. Lincoln ran for the General Assembly to strengthen the ticket. He won, and Yates lost. In 1855, Lincoln ran for the U.S. Senate but lost. One year later, at the first Republican national convention in Philadelphia, the Illinois delegation nominated him for Vice President. He lost again, but more and more people were beginning to recognize his name. Two events then made him a national figure: the Lincoln-Douglas debates in the Illinois senatorial campaign of 1858, and his

speech to the Young Men's Central Republican Union of New York City at Cooper Union on February 27, 1860, which brought him to the attention of influential Republicans in the Northeast.

At the 1860 Republican convention in Chicago, William H. Seward of New York, Salmon P. Chase of Ohio, and Simon Cameron of Pennsylvania were the leading contenders for the party's presidential nomination. All these men had enemies and were either too conservative or too radical on the slavery issue for one wing or another of the party. Lincoln was a new man, he had no enemies, and most people considered him a moderate. Through the political astuteness of his managers, he got the nomination and went on to win the election. Three months later, Lincoln left for Washington. He never returned to Springfield and this house.

#### THE HOUSE

The house was built in 1839 and is typical of that period. It was a story-and-a-half building until 1856, when the Lincolns raised it to two stories. Wooden pegs and handmade nails hold together the native hardwood and white pine.

When the Lincolns left for Washington in 1861, they sold their household furnishings. Many pieces were burned in the Chicago fire of 1871 and others have been lost. Some furniture, however, has been recovered and is now in the home.

The State of Illinois, which previously administered the site, was assisted in its restoration work by the Abraham Lincoln Association of Springfield and the National Society of the Colonial Dames of America in Illinois.

#### ABOUT YOUR VISIT

The national historic site is on (Business) U.S. 66. A few blocks north, Ill. 97 leads to the Lincoln Tomb in Oak Ridge Cemetery and on to the reconstructed town of New Salem. The four square blocks comprising Lincoln Home National Historic Site include many of the homes of the neighbors of the Lincolns. These will be restored to their original appearance. Within walking distance are the Depot, the Old State Capitol, the Lincoln-Herndon Law Office, and the Illinois State Museum.

# LINCOLN HOME





# LINCOLN HOME







**A**braham Lincoln came to Springfield on April 15, 1837. Carl Sandburg tells the story of how Lincoln walked into Joshua Speed's store and asked the price of bedclothes. Seventeen dollars was the answer. "Cheap as it is," Lincoln said, "I have not the money to pay, but if you will credit me until Christmas, and my experiment here as a lawyer is a success, I will pay you then. If I fail in that, I will probably never pay at all." Speed took pity on this "gloomy and melancholy" face and offered to share his living quarters above the store. Lincoln accepted, and a friendship was born.

Though Lincoln was a new resident of Springfield, he was not a stranger to the town. Since 1834, Lincoln had represented Sangamon County in the Illinois General Assembly and helped move the capital from Vandalia to Springfield. The prairie city was growing rapidly. A newspaperman wrote in 1839 that Springfield contained "a throng of stores, taverns, and shops . . . and an agreeable assemblage of dwelling houses very neatly painted, most of them white, and situated somewhat retiringly behind tasteful frontyards." For Lincoln, the young lawyer and up-and-coming State legislator, Springfield possessed opportunities which could only enhance his already promising future. Here Lincoln could meet politicians and local leaders from all over the State. One was Stephen A. Douglas, a State senator who would defeat Lincoln in the 1858 election for the U.S. Senate. And here, too, he met Mary Todd.

Mary Todd came from a prominent family. She was born in Lexington, Ky., on December 13, 1818, the daughter of Robert Todd, a banker. The Todds were leading members of the community. They had helped found Lexington and Transylvania University, the first college west of the Appalachians. Mary grew up amidst all the comforts which the times and area offered: she went to a private school which only children of the "best families" attended, and slaves waited on her.

In October 1839, Mary Todd came to Springfield to live with her sister, Elizabeth, the wife of Ninian Wirt Edwards, son of a former governor of Illinois. Here Mary joined the group of single young men and women who often gathered at the Edwards home. Among the young men were Stephen A. Douglas; Edward C. Baker, a future U.S. representative; James Shields, a future U.S. senator from Illinois, Minnesota, and Missouri; Lyman Trumbull, a future U.S. senator from Illinois; and Lincoln.

Soon Lincoln and Mary were fast friends. Their relationship waxed and waned as the months passed, but in the fall of 1842, they decided to marry. It was a decision that her sisters found difficult to accept, for Lincoln's background, in their eyes, did not measure up to Mary's.

On the morning of November 4, 1842, Lincoln went to the home of Rev. Charles Dresser, the Episcopal minister and told him, "I want to get hitched tonight." Lincoln and Mary wanted to be married in the minister's home because of her family's opposition. But when they learned that she was determined to go through with the wedding, the Edwards insisted that the wedding must take place in their home. That evening Mary Todd and Abraham Lincoln stood before Rev. Charles Dresser and repeated their vows.

Their first year together, the Lincolns lived in a hotel boarding house, the Globe Tavern. Here their first child, Robert Todd Lincoln, was born on August 1, 1843. The noisy, crowded conditions in the Globe did not make a homelike environment, so the Lincolns moved and spent the winter in a rented three-room cottage at 214 South Fourth St. The next spring, Lincoln bought Rev. Dresser's home on the corner of Eighth and Jackson Streets for \$1,200 cash and a small lot worth \$300.

They lived on a tight budget. Lincoln himself chopped the wood, carried the water, milked the cow, and did the rest of the chores men did in those days. And to keep the money coming in, Lincoln had to go out and travel the judicial circuit. The Eighth Circuit, in which he practiced, covered 31,073 square kilometers (12,000 square miles) and was sparsely settled with county seats far apart connected by rough roads often in disrepair. Lincoln traveled this circuit on horseback, exposed to the elements, with a volume of the *Revised Statutes*, copies of Blackstone's *Commentaries* and *Chitty On Pleadings*, and an extra shirt and change of underwear in his saddlebags. Lincoln made a name for himself on the circuit, and in 1846 he won election to the U.S. House of Representatives as a Whig. That same year the Lincolns' second son, Edward Baker, was born.

The first session of the 30th Congress was to convene on December 6, 1847. In October the Lincolns rented their house for \$90 a year to Cornelius Ludlum, and they left for Washington via Lexington, Ky., where they visited the Todds. After an arduous stagecoach and railroad trip, the Lincolns arrived in the Nation's Capital.

Though Lincoln was active as a new member of Congress, his colleagues generally appraised him as a droll Westerner of average talents. Lincoln's opposition to the Mexican War which had broken out in May 1846 soon made him unpopular with his constituents. In Illinois the patriotic fervor and hunger for new lands dispelled any doubts that the people may have had about the American cause. Lincoln's "spot" resolutions asking President James Polk to admit that the "spot" where American blood was first shed was Mexican territory and his anti-administration speeches created surprised resentment at home and earned him the nickname "Spotty Lincoln." Illinois Democrats called Lincoln a disgrace.

The war debates also raised the issue of slavery. Whether these newly won territories should be open to slavery was perhaps the most serious question before the 30th Congress. The debates over the Wilmot Proviso showed Lincoln the explosiveness and divisiveness of the slavery question.

In May 1849, the second session of the 30th Congress ended and Lincoln returned home, happy to be reunited with his friends and family, who had stayed in Washington only a short time. Feeling that he had no future in politics, Lincoln took to the dusty roads of the Eighth Circuit to regain the friends and clients who had slipped away while he was in Congress. Lincoln was offered the governorship of the new Oregon Territory, but he declined it.

The first year home from Congress proved to be emotionally hard for the Lincolns, for Mary's father



and maternal grandmother, both strong constant figures in her life, died. One of Mary's brothers contested her father's will and Lincoln served as the lawyer for Mary and her three sisters in Springfield. The details of the litigation only added to her personal grief. In mid-December their son, Eddie, became ill, apparently with consumption. The Lincolns nursed Eddie for 52 days. On the morning of February 1, 1850, he died. Mary, already worn out from the agony of the past year, collapsed in grief and shock when she heard the news. Soon, however, the Lincolns were heartened by the expected birth of their third son, William Wallace, who was born December 21, 1850. A fourth son, "Tad," was born April 4, 1853.

The Lincolns loved their children and indulged them greatly. Mary paraded their accomplishments before visitors, gave them elaborate birthday parties and often joined in their games, throwing dignity to the wind. Lincoln often took the two youngest to his law office and let them run wild while he worked. William Herndon, a law partner and biographer of Lincoln, frequently grew so mad that he wanted to throw the boys out the window. He dared not say anything, for he knew that Lincoln would side with the boys.

## **PRESIDENTIAL POLITICS**

In the spring of 1854 Lincoln returned to politics. The spur was Sen. Stephen Douglas's Kansas-Nebraska Act which repealed the Missouri Compromise that prohibited slavery north of 36° 30' N. latitude, Missouri's southern border. Lincoln and many of his fellow Whigs opposed the new law and in the upcoming elections that fall sought to bolster their strength in the Congress and the State legislatures. Consequently, Lincoln's reputation grew.

In 1855, Lincoln ran for the U.S. Senate but lost. One year later, at the first Republican national convention in Philadelphia, the Illinois delegation nominated him for vice president. He lost again but more and more people were beginning to recognize his name.

In 1858 Senator Douglas came up for reelection. On June 16, the State Republican Convention nominated Lincoln for the seat. In his acceptance speech at the State Capitol, Lincoln set the tone of the campaign when he said, "'A house divided against itself cannot stand!' I believe this government cannot endure permanently half slave and half free."

On the advice of his managers, Lincoln challenged Douglas to a series of 7 debates during the fall of 1858. Douglas was reluctant, but finally accepted. The famous Lincoln-Douglas debates ensued. These debates helped make Lincoln a national figure. His logic, moral fervor, spare and elegant language, and skillful debating techniques diminished Douglas' reputation. Douglas found himself backed into a corner before he realized what had happened. Douglas lost the debates but won the election.

Lincoln continued to give speeches, many in support of the Republican party, throughout the Midwest. In October of 1859 he was invited to speak in the East. His speech to the Young Men's Central Republican Union of New York City at Cooper Union on February 27, 1860, brought him to the attention of influential Republicans in

the Northeast. He exhorted his audience to compromise readily if the occasion arose but not to shrink from their opposition to the extension of slavery. "Let us have faith that right makes might, and in that faith let us, to the end, dare to do our duty as we understand it," were the words Lincoln left ringing in their ears.

At the 1860 Republican convention in Chicago, William H. Seward of New York, Salmon P. Chase of Ohio, and Simon Cameron of Pennsylvania were the leading contenders for the party's presidential nomination. But Lincoln was a new man and had few opponents. Through the political astuteness of his managers and his own shrewd politicking he got the nomination on May 16, 1860. Hannibal Hamlin of Maine was selected as his running mate. Lincoln learned of the nominations by telegram in Springfield. Beaming, he shook hands all around and went home to tell Mary the news. That night Springfield went wild.

In the general election, Lincoln faced Stephen Douglas, John Breckinridge, and John Bell. Lincoln spent most of the election day at his office and then went to vote around mid-afternoon. Before the night was over, the outcome of the balloting was certain. Lincoln took only 40 percent of the popular vote, but he received a clear majority of the electoral vote.

On January 27, 1861, Lincoln announced that he would depart for Washington on February 11 and asked for the "utmost privacy" during the rest of his stay in Springfield. Much had to be done before the departure. The house on Eighth Street, with all its memories, had to be vacated and some household articles sold. Lucian Tilton, president of the Great Western Railroad, bought some of the furniture. In 1869 Tilton moved to Chicago and 2 years later the Great Chicago Fire destroyed his home and some of the Lincoln furniture. Many personal possessions were packed for use in the White House. Lincoln himself roped the trunks and put a card on each one labeled "A. Lincoln, White House, Washington, D.C."

And Lincoln also needed some privacy to think about the awesome job that lay ahead of him. Already six States had left the Union and another, Texas, would join them before he left Springfield. Grave times faced him.

On the rainswept morning of February 11, 1861, Lincoln stood on the Springfield train platform. In a voice trembling with emotion he addressed the crowd. *My friends—No one, not in my situation, can appreciate my feeling of sadness at this parting. To this place, and the kindness of these people, I owe every thing. Here I have lived a quarter of a century and have passed from a young to an old man. Here my children have been born and one is buried. I now leave, not knowing when, or whether ever, I may return, with a task before me greater than that which rested upon Washington. Without the assistance of that Divine Being who ever attended him, I cannot succeed. With that assistance I cannot fail. Trusting in Him, who can go with me, and remain with you and be every where for good, let us confidently hope that all will yet be well. To His care commending you, as I hope in your prayers you will commend me, I bid you an affectionate farewell.*





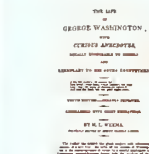
The traditional birthplace of Abraham Lincoln.



Painful snakebite, which caused the dread 'milk sickness.'



Little Pigeon Baptist Church, which the Lincolns attended in Indiana.



A book which greatly moved young Abraham.

Abraham grew up in Indiana. A lanky, good-humored youth, liked by all, he helped his father with the farming, hacked away at the forest with his ax, attended the occasional schools in the community, and read incessantly. Uninterested in labor, he passed long hours in talk. At 16 he worked for a few months on a farm along the Ohio. Three years later he rode a flatboat down the Mississippi to New Orleans and first glimpsed a wider world.



A page from A's sum. New Salem as Lincoln knew book, assembled in Indiana. It is a plat made in 1866.



The first inaugural, beneath the unfinished Capitol dome.



Jefferson Davis, President of the Confederate States of America.

## THE FORMATIVE YEARS



The Lincoln family Bible.

Thomas Lincoln

"It is great folly to attempt to make anything out of me or my early life," wrote the candidate to a supporter. "It can all be condensed into a single sentence; and that sentence you will find in Gray's *Elegy*: 'The short and simple annals of the poor.' That's my life and that's all you or anyone else can make out of it."

Abraham Lincoln, elected 16th President of the United States soon after penning these lines, aptly summed up his humble beginnings. He was born on February 12, 1809, in a log cabin on the Kentucky frontier. His parents—Thomas Lincoln, a carpenter and backwoods farmer, and Nancy Hanks, a shadowy figure of obscure lineage—were hardworking and religious but without schooling. When Abe was 2, his father took his family to another, more fertile farm 10 miles north. This was the Knob Creek place, and the boy long remembered his years here. He swam in the creek with companions, attended A.B.C. schools with his sister Sarah for a few months, and accompanied his father on chores.

In Abe's 7th year, title troubles again drove his father off his farm. Seeking secure land—and his son said later—free soil, Thomas carried his family into the Indiana wilderness and settled near Little Pigeon Creek. Two years later, in 1818, Abe's mother died, a victim of the terrible "milk sickness," and the family sank into a rough existence from which it did not emerge until Thomas remarried.

His new wife was Sarah Bush Johnston, a widow with three children. Cheerful and energetic, she brought a new tone to the Lincoln cabin and raised the boy and his sister as her own.

Sarah Bush Lincoln



An Ohio River steamboat, The General Pike, in 1818.



Lincoln's surveying equipment.

In 1830 the Lincolns moved once more. Lured by reports of rich black soil, they piled all their goods onto wagons and set out for Illinois. Soon they reached a spot on the banks of Sangamon River, a few miles from Decatur. Abraham was now 21, free to come and go as he chose, but he stayed with his family for a year, breaking ground, splitting rails, and planting corn. After another trip down the Mississippi, he drifted into New Salem, a thriving village.

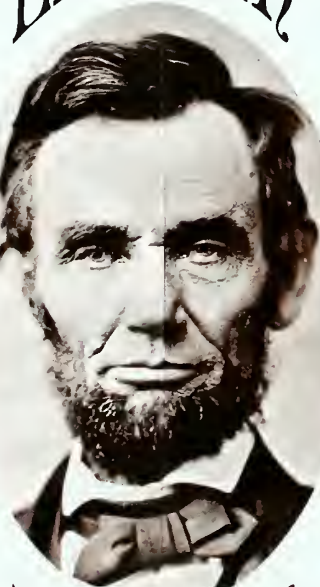
For a while he clerked in Offutt's store. When it failed, he grasped at a new opportunity. Encouraged by his friends he ran for the State legislature, advocating a variety of public improvements. Though he lost the election, he carried his own neighborhood by 277 votes to 7, a source of great pride for many years after.

## EARLY POLITICAL CAREER



The Statehouse at Springfield.

# ABRAHAM LINCOLN



## 1809-1865

Springfield, the new State capital. Licensed an attorney the year before, he formed a partnership with the able John T. Stuart and soon dipped into local politics. After marrying Mary Todd, a Kentucky belle, in 1842, he settled down in earnest to the law.

From 1847-49 Lincoln served in Congress. He worked hard in office, but his opposition to the Mexican War proved notably unpopular back home, and he was passed over for renomination. Sadly he returned to Springfield, and resumed his law practice. Honest, shrewd, and effective before juries, he soon rose to the first rank of the Illinois bar.

Over the next 5 years Lincoln devoted much time to studying the American past and the looming issue of slavery. Roused by the repeal of the Missouri Compromise, he emerged from political retirement to grapple with Stephen A. Douglas, who advocated in Congress doctrines that would allow the introduction of slavery into the western territories. Their first skirmish came in 1854. Arguing that slavery should be restrained to its present domain, Lincoln marshaled history and logic to counter Douglas's theory of "popular sovereignty." It was his first great speech of his career. Two years later, another address, this time to a State Convention of the new Republican party, again brought him wide attention. He was now enough of a national figure to be seriously considered for the Republican vice-presidential nomination. In 1858 Lincoln challenged Doug-

las for his Senate seat. For 3 months they ranged Illinois debating the issue of freedom in the territories. Lincoln exposed the inconsistencies in Douglas's arguments, while disavowing abolitionism himself. Douglas won the election, but the contest lifted the tall prairie lawyer once more into national prominence.

Early in 1860 Lincoln journeyed east to lecture in New York City. He called for the exclusion of slavery from the territories, deplored efforts to destroy the Union, and urged friendship toward the South. The speech was a triumph, and the number of his supporters grew. When his rivals proved weak in the national convention, Lincoln was nominated for the Presidency on the third ballot.



A political rally at the Lincoln home in August 1860.



A poster for the 1860 campaign.



Two views of Lincoln the candidate.

From his doorstep in Springfield Lincoln ran a quiet campaign, receiving delegations and political leaders while avoiding speeches and stumping. In November 1860 the Nation voted. Lincoln won a large electoral majority (180 votes to 123 for his three opponents), but he polled less than half of the popular vote. The South voted almost solidly against him.

"The fiery trials through which we pass will light us down, to honor or dishonor, to the last generation." SECOND ANNUAL MESSAGE TO CONGRESS

## THE WAR YEARS



Lincoln's Cabinet. At right is Secretary of War Edwin Stanton.



The bombardment of Fort Sumter, April 12-14, 1861.



Lincoln confers with McClellan, just after the battle of Antietam.



An 1864 political cartoon, pointing toward the sick of reunion.



Gettysburg, 1863: "[The world] can never forget what they did here."

bright spot. But at Fredericksburg in late 1862 and at Chancellorsville in the spring of 1863 the North again suffered large-scale and critical defeats.

This was Lincoln's darkest hour. After Antietam, he had is-



McLean House, Appomattox, Va.



Ulysses S. Grant



The Emancipation, as the plain people saw it.

citadel of Vicksburg, splitting the Confederacy. When he broke the siege of Chattanooga 2 months later, a grateful Lincoln brought him east to command all the Union armies.

In May 1864, while another Union force set out across Georgia, Grant advanced southward, bent on destroying Lee's army. Lee fought desperately in the Wilderness and at Spotsylvania. Casualties mounted, and quick victory seemed as far away as ever.

"The whole physiognomy is as coarse as one you would meet anywhere in the length and breadth of the States; but without, it is redeemed, illumined, softened, and brightened by a kindly though serious look out of his eyes, and an expression of homely sagacity; that seems weighted with rich results of village experience. A great deal of native sense; no bookish cultivation, no refinement; honest at heart, and thoroughly so, and yet, in some sort, shy—at least, endowed with a sort of tact and wisdom that are akin to craft, and would impel him, I think, to take an evasive in flesh, rather than to make a bull-run at him right in front."

—Nathaniel Hawthorne



1864

The summer of 1864 was one of Lincoln's most difficult. Peace negotiations were begun, but fell through. There was discord in the Cabinet, and in August Lincoln broke with the Radicals in Congress. He soon came to believe that he had no chance of winning reelection.

Yet the tide was slowly turning. Two days after the Democrats nominated McClellan for the Presidency, Atlanta fell to W. T. Sherman and Northern morale soared. Lincoln won the November election easily, carrying 22 of the 25 participating States.

The war was fast drawing to a close as Lincoln began his second term. Lee was bottled up at Petersburg; Sherman's swath of destruction had badly crippled the South; slavery was dead. Lincoln's concern now was the reconciliation of the two sections. In his inaugural address he de-

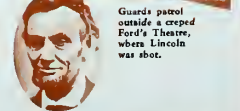
scribed the war as a visitation from God and—mellowed and deepened by the ordeal—he pleaded for peace without malice. On April 9 Lee surrendered to Grant at Appomattox. Two nights later a torchlight procession called at the White House. Instead of a victory speech, Lincoln gave them his moderate views on reconstruction. It was the last public address of a compassionate man. On April 14 and Mrs. Lincoln went to the theater. During the third act an assassin slipped into the Lincoln's box, shot the President in the head, leaped onto the stage before a startled audience, and fled into the darkness. Soldiers carried the slumped figure across the street to a boardinghouse and laid him across a bed. Surgeons worked over Lincoln all night, but he never regained consciousness. The next morning death came to the man whom power had ennobled.



The assassin's weapon.



Guards patrol outside a creped Ford's Theatre, where Lincoln was shot.



April 10, 1865



A people's tribune.

## THE SPRINGFIELD HOME

The house that Lincoln bought was originally built for Rev. Dresser in the fall of 1839, probably by his brother, Henry. The house was one and one-half stories high in the Greek Revival style. The framing was rough-sawn oak with hand-hewn oak sills. Pine was used for the exterior trim and weather-boarding. The laths were of split hickory. Walnut was used for the interior trim and doors, and the floors were random-width oak. Wooden pegs and hand-wrought nails were used in the construction.

In June 1850 Lincoln improved the front yard by constructing a brick retaining wall and fence along the front of the lot. In June 1855 he had the brick wall and fence extended along a quarter of the Jackson Street side.

Little change took place until 1856 when Mary began major improvements to the home, for the family of growing boys needed more room. She enlarged the home to two full stories. The work was done by Hannan and Ragsdale for \$1,300.

The contractors raised the roof of the front part of the house 3 meters (9 feet). New pine studding was inserted and fastened to the existing rough-sawn oak studding of the original walls. The ceiling of the two half-story bedrooms at the front of the house were then raised to a height of 3.5 meters (11 feet). The ceiling of the three rooms at the rear of the house was raised about 30 centimeters (1 foot) and an entire story containing five bedrooms and a storage room was added above them to make the house a full two stories. Northern pine was used on the interior, and the upstairs woodwork was given an artificial walnut stain to continue the walnut decor of the downstairs. The fireplaces built in the two second-floor bedrooms were false; they served as decorative backgrounds for woodburning stoves.

These were some of the changes that the Lincolns made to their home at 8th and Jackson during the 17 years they lived in the only home they ever owned.

## ABOUT YOUR VISIT

The Lincoln Home National Historic Site is open year-round, seven days a week except Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's days. Those who wish to tour the home must obtain a ticket which indicates a specific time for a scheduled tour. Tickets are free of charge and are given out on a first-come, first-served basis at the visitor center, 426 S. 7th St. Organized groups may reserve tickets in advance.

The home is administered by the National Park Service, U.S. Department of the Interior. Contact:  
Superintendent, Lincoln Home NHS  
413 S. 8th St.  
Springfield, IL 62703  
(217) 492-4150

**NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**





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National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior

Lincoln Home National Historic Site  
Illinois



## A Future President's Home



The only home Abraham Lincoln ever owned in Springfield, Illinois

"My friends – No one, not in my situation, can appreciate my feeling of sadness at this parting. To this place, and the kindness of these people, I owe everything." An emotional Abraham Lincoln opened his farewell remarks to the citizens of Springfield, Illinois with these words on February 11, 1861. Lincoln was leaving his friends and neighbors of twenty-four years, and the home that he and his family had lived in for seventeen years, to serve as president of a nation on the verge of Civil War.

The Lincoln home has been restored to its 1860s appearance, revealing Lincoln as husband, father, politician, and President-elect. It stands in the midst of a four block historic neighborhood which the National Park Service is restoring so that the neighborhood, like the house, will appear much as Lincoln would have remembered it.

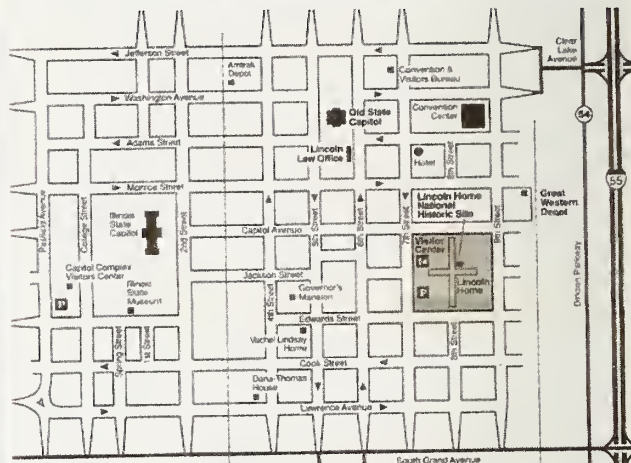


National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior

Lincoln Home National Historic Site  
Illinois



## A Future President's Home



### Operating Hours & Seasons

The Lincoln Home Visitor Center, located at 426 South Seventh St., is open from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily except January 1st, Thanksgiving, and December 25th.

### Getting There

#### Car

Interstate 55 provides north-south access to Springfield:

Visitors heading south on I-55 should use exit 98B at Clear Lake Avenue. Proceed west toward downtown and turn left on Seventh St. The Visitor Center is located five blocks south on the left side of Seventh Street. The visitor parking lot is past the Visitor Center on the left. Visitors traveling north on I-55 should use exit 92A at Sixth Street, which is Business I-55, and proceed about four miles north to downtown. Turn right on Capitol Avenue and right again on Seventh Street. The Visitor Center is located on the left side of Seventh Street.

THE  
SOCIETY



